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Preview

A survey of London's thriving jazz clubs is contained in today's *Preview*, the 16-page guide to entertainments and the arts in Britain published each Friday with *The Times*.

New law chief for Scotland

Mr Peter Fraser, MP for Angus, South (above), has been appointed Solicitor General for Scotland. He replaces Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, dismissed by the Prime Minister last week for press comment in the Glasgow rape case. Mr Fraser, aged 36, an advocate at the Scottish Bar since 1969, was made PPS to Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, in November

Husain to lead Gulf war force

King Husain has announced the formation of a contingent of Jordanian volunteers, to be commanded by himself, to fight alongside the Iraqi army in its war with Iran. He made the announcement last night in Amman

Lovesick youth hijacks bus

A lovesick French schoolboy armed with a pistol hijacked a school bus and forced the driver to take him to Holland where he wanted to visit his girlfriend. He was overpowered in Veldhoven, and the other children were freed unharmed

Back page



Polish catalogue of US spies

Poland's head of counter-intelligence named Western diplomats among those who, he claimed had been caught contacting Polish dissidents. In an attempt to counter American criticism of the military regime, he spoke of American moles, radio receivers, safe houses and dead drops in Poland.

Back page

Hostages freed

Guerrillas who hijacked a Colombian Boeing 727 freed their hostages and flew to the Caribbean island of San Andres in an executive jet. Their destination was not known Earlier report, page 9

Carron deported

Mr Owen Carron, MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, and his companion, Mr Danny Morrison, were deported yesterday from the United States to Canada.

Diplomat killed

Mr Kemal Arikan, the Turkish Consul General in Los Angeles, was murdered by Armenian gunmen who opened fire on his car in the city centre

10pc mortgages

Mortgages at only 10 per cent were offered yesterday by the Building Trust, an unauthorized unit trust. But the loans will be index-linked and will increase with the house prices index Page 15

US mediator

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, hinted in public that he intended to appoint a special envoy to revive the stalled Israeli-Egyptian talks on Palestinian autonomy Page 9

Heron setback

Heron Corporation was refused a High Court injunction preventing the transfer of shares between Associated Communications Corporation and Mr Robert Holmes a'Court

Page 15

Dozier freed in 90-second assault on Red Brigades

By Our Foreign Staff

Italian police yesterday burst into a flat in Padua and in 90 seconds without firing a shot freed Brigadier-General James Dozier in their most successful and spectacular operation against 10 years of Red Brigades terrorism.

The 50-year-old general, deputy Chief of Staff at Nato's Southern European land forces headquarters at Verona, had been a *prisoner* of the Red Brigades for 42 days.

Police sources said they had been watching the flat for three days in Via Pindemonte on the outskirts of Padua, about 50 miles from Verona where the general was abducted. The decision was taken to go in this morning and at 11.36 a squad of specially trained anti-terrorist police broke down the door of the five-room apartment.

They confronted five terrorists, including one woman, who surrendered immediately. The general, gagged, barefoot and wearing a tracksuit was inside a tent.

As they entered the room with the tent containing the general, one terrorist was said to be pointing a pistol with a silencer at the general's head, apparently with a brief to shoot in an eventuality such as this. He was overcome.

The general was unharmed, but thin and with a growth of beard. According to the police his first words were: "Thanks, thanks, marvellous, OK police." After telephoning his wife, who is in West Germany, and the United States Ambassador in Rome, Mr Maxwell Rabb, General Dozier was taken to an American military base near Verona.

One of the terrorists was named as Antonio Savasta, believed to be a Venice Red Brigades leader, and another as his companion, Emilia Libera, also sought by police. A third suspect was identified as 22-year-old Cesare Leonardo, previously unknown to police.

Mr Rabb quoted General Dozier as saying to him over the telephone: "Now I'm fine but when the police broke in, a terrorist pointed his pistol against my forehead and I really thought my last minute had come."

A Padua police spokesman said General Dozier appeared to be in a state of shock when he was helped out of the tent. "He was speaking half in English and half in Italian. He asked what day it was and when he was told the 28th he kept saying Giovedi, Giovedi (Thursday, Thursday)", he said.

"He asked for a milky coffee but did not want any food. He was very tired, but it is not surprising after what he has gone though. He is a wonderful man", the spokesman said.

He said that contrary to some reports that one of the Guerrillas had been hit over the head with a pistol butt, "in fact he just banged his head against a wall".

General Dozier will now spend some time undergoing medical checks in the American military hospital at Vicenza.

Admiral William Crowe, Nato's Southern European Commander-in-Chief in Naples said the general had told him on the telephone he had never lost hope of being freed. Now he wished to get a haircut. The general, Admiral Crowe said, had behaved brilliantly. Nato headquarters also issued a statement expressing appreciation of the Italian authorities' handling of the case.

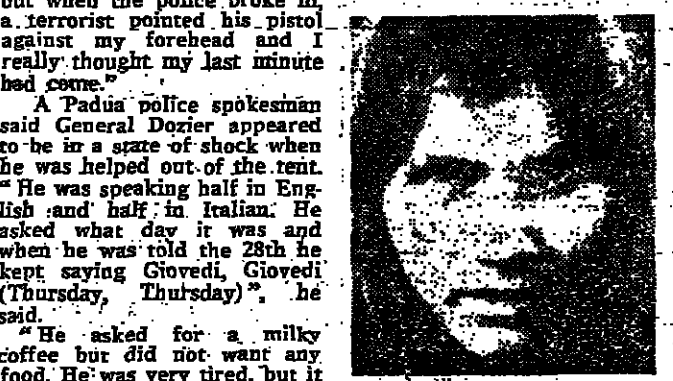
Both Houses of the Italian Parliament broke out in applause when the news was announced in this morning's session. President Pertini exclaimed: "Bravi, bravissimi, they have liberated General Dozier", as, arms outstretched, he welcomed the visiting Mr Muhammad Seddikben Yahia, the Algerian Foreign Minister, for a formal call.

Mrs Dozier told a press conference in Frankfurt before flying to Italy to join her husband: "He sounded marvellous and in good health. We're looking forward very much to seeing him as soon as possible, and that will be very soon". Mrs Dovier added: "Please thank the world for all their love and their prayers. It did work, and he's home".

President Reagan hailed the general as a "courageous soldier whose life has been dedicated to the defence of liberty" and said his rescue was "a happy ending . . . the prayers of millions of Americans have been answered".

"I've spoken with the general by telephone and I'm happy to relay his report that he is in fine shape and I can tell you that just hearing him . . . I told Nancy he sounded as if he had just gone down to the corner for five minutes", Mr Reagan said.

"The same courage and resolve that James Dozier demonstrated on the battlefield in wartime have seen him through this new test with flying colours. His country and our allies can be very proud of this gallant man . . . his rescue is welcome news for all those who believe in the rule of law and the defence of our free institutions".



Emilia Libera, one of the five terrorists in the flat.

He spoke at a luncheon honouring the centenary of the birth of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

A Vatican spokesman expressed "relief and satisfaction". Signor Enrico Berlinguer, leader of the Communist Party, said in a telegram: "I am happy to send my personal warm congratulations."

In London, Mrs Margaret Thatcher congratulated the Italian Government on an "excellent operation".



Mrs Dozier and her daughter Cheryl hold a news agency picture of the general wired to them in Frankfurt.

A Carabinieri officer watches protectively over the bearded General Dozier at Padua police headquarters.

Odds on O'Reilly for the election

By Alan Hamilton, Dublin, Thursday

He was buttressing the bar of the Bailey off Grafton Street, gazing forlornly into his palm, where winked a shiny tenpenny piece with its leaping Irish salmon, his meagre change from a punt and a pint.

"Jasus", he expostulated, "we'll soon be having a new unit of currency: the Guinness pound. If it gets any dearer, we'll turn into another Norway, brewing it in the backyard and drinking it with the blinds drawn."

For his refill he proffered a £1.27 note, the kind with the Queen on it. But, despite the higher value of sterling, his change was the same. "Thieves", he muttered, scattering brown froth. "The country may be broke, but the publicans aren't."

The Irish government may have fallen on the issue of shirts and shoes—its proposal to slap 18 per cent VAT on the necessities of clothes and footwear—but the real fact of the matter is gradually seeping into people's minds; the old country certainly is broke.

The thought of another general election only eight months after the last elicited yesterday nothing but weary and fatalistic sighs. The parties have no money for a fight, and the electors have no stomach

"Whoever wins, we'll get the same old budget back again, give or take a *shilling*," pronounced a loud woman sipping whiskey. "We're paying now for the high old time we gave ourselves after we joined that Common Market."

The political leaders, with an election to fight, cannot afford the luxury of resigned fatalism. Dr FitzGerald, whom everyone calls "Garret", was first off the mark with his face up on lamp-posts by O'Connell Bridge before midnight on Wednesday. Mr Haughey, whom everyone calls "Haughey", retaliated early this morning by nabbing the nearest lamp-post to the gates of Leinster House, where the Irish government sits when there is one.

Mr Charles Haughey, having come second in the race for the lamp-posts, was a clear winner of the race to hold the first election press conference. He looked sleekly confident, suggesting that he may have come fresh from consultations with Mr Kenny O'Reilly.

Mr O'Reilly is a prominent Dublin bookmaker, who this afternoon was offering 4-7 that Mr Haughey would lead the next government, and 6-4 that the coalition would stay in power. Mr O'Reilly is a man of greater political acumen than the average elector; last week he offered 10-1 that the Government would be defeated on the budget, but not a single citizen accepted his offer.

Back in the Bailey, the pessimistic drinker concluded: "Whichever of them gets in, they'll have to put the price of drink up. And that'll ruin the social fabric of this country. The social fabric is held together by drinking. Another 10p on a pint of Guinness and they'll empty the pubs for good."

Cash crisis Page 2, Leading article Page 13

Cabinet agree to differ over Budget

By Julian Haviland
Political Editor

Despite wide differences of opinion, freely expressed, about the need for a reflationary Budget and the urgency of reducing unemployment, the Cabinet was said yesterday to have agreed to continue with its strategy of reducing inflation.

The Prime Minister told the Commons: "We had an excellent Cabinet, a very useful discussion."

The special session to discuss prospects for the Budget took two and a half hours of the three-hour weekly meeting and achieved one important thing. No senior minister will be able to complain, when the Budget details are unveiled on March 9, that he or she had no voice in the shaping of it.

Details of possible tax changes were not discussed; they were left by agreement to the Chancellor's judgment next month. But when his colleagues learn his intentions on Budget day, there will be no repetition of last year's crisis when three members of the Cabinet, faced with having to support a heavy deflationary Budget, discussed resigning on the spot.

With overall levels of public expenditure for 1982-83 already agreed after considerable Cabinet argument in the autumn, the discussion yesterday was on how much revenue should be raised, or rather how much could be afforded in reliefs; and whether the corporate or the personal sector should benefit most from any bounty the Chancellor provided.

Sir Geoffrey Howe had circulated a paper designed to concentrate discussion on the successes already achieved, successes he later listed in the Commons.

Sir Geoffrey said his Budget would be "designed to maintain the process of steady recovery". The Government would continue to create the conditions for sustainable growth.

Benn plan to create full employment

Mr Wedgwood Benn yesterday produced a plan of action for the next Labour government which he said would restore full employment by creating four million jobs (our Parliamentary Correspondent writes).

Speaking in the Commons during the debate on the economy, he swept aside criticisms from his former Cabinet colleague, Mrs Shirley Williams, who said his plan appeared to totally forget the

Continued on back page, col 3

De Lorean axes 1,100 Belfast jobs as MPs protest

By Our Industrial Staff

About 1,100 out of 2,600 jobs are to be axed at Belfast's crisis-hit De Lorean car factory as part of the company's bid for survival, it was disclosed last night. This is double the figure feared by union leaders.

The announcement led to angry scenes in the commons with MPs on both sides of the House criticizing the company and the Government's involvement.

One of the most outspoken was Mr Alan Clark, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Sutton, who accused the Government of subsidizing "the extravagant lifestyle of a lot of American con men".

The uproar is certain to sour further relations between Mr John De Lorean and Whitehall. Last year he claimed that the company's image had suffered badly as the result of allegations made by Mr Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, of financial irregularities — which police said later were unfounded — and three weeks ago he blamed United Kingdom Government delays for the failure of his company's Wall Street share flotation.

In Belfast, production, which has been scaled down dramatically is to be cut even further in an attempt to carry the firm over until sales start to pick up in America.

Union leaders were told of the company's decision by Mr Don Lander, managing-director, who flew in from London for critical talks. Mr De Lorean flew back to New York after a day of crisis talks in London.

It is understood the mass payoffs are to start immediately. The unions are believed to have accepted the inevitability of the redundancies because of the firm's cash-flow problems, the depressed American sales market, and the Government's outright refusal to give any more cash.

Workers are expected to be told officially of the company's survival package at a mass meeting today.

Mr De Lorean returned to America to prepare for the arrival of the management consultants, Coopers and Lybrand. They have been called in by the Government to review the financial affairs of his company in America and at the plant.

He is understood to be pressing ahead with fresh attempts to find independent finance to support the firm, which has already been backed by £80m of taxpayers' money.

There are no immediate plans to cut more than 1,100 jobs, but production, which once reached 400 cars weekly, is being cut back.

De Lorean executives plan to reduce the number to 140 a week over the next three weeks. Since short-time working was introduced earlier this month, the rate has been 200.

The stainless steel gull-winged car sells in the United States at $25,000 (£13,700) but of the 7,500 so far shipped across the Atlantic, just over half have been sold.

According to top management, Mr De Lorean is still confident his company can pull through. "He is enormously determined and still confident that he can succeed. We believe he can as well. It is just unfortunate that the market in America, which we needed, disappeared.

"But it will return in the spring, and sales will definitely pick up. Of that we are certain, because the car is a winner. John is a very serious businessman and not the American playboy some of us could make him out to be. His flamboyant reputation works against him here, but it's what we need in America, and that's what counts."

The future of the Government involvement rests with the management consultants, whose review of De Lorean's affairs and prospects over the next two weeks will be examined by Sir Kenneth Cork, one of the City of London's top accountants.

His final assessment will also be closely watched by dozens of firms who supply components to the company and who are now under serious threat.

Most are based in Britain, and, according to company sources, up to 10,000 jobs are involved.

Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, told the Commons that nothing in the Government's present words or actions should be taken as committing any further government assistance or comfort to the De Lorean companies.

De Lorean road block, Page 17

Inter-union tension high as rail talks fail

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

Relations between the rail unions were at breaking point last night as hopes of an early independent inquiry into the train drivers' dispute started to fade.

Mr Sidney Weighell general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen (NUR), went further than at any time in the four-week-old dispute in criticizing publicly leaders of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) for reneging on their part of pay and productivity agreements that had averted a national rail strike in August.

At the same time, Mr Pat Lowry, chairman of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, failed to persuade Mr Ray Buckton, Aslef general secretary, to agree to an inquiry on terms of reference acceptable to British Rail.

At a press conference prompted largely by suggestions of conflict within his union over his attitude to the dispute, Mr Weighell said that the NUR had honoured all its agreements with British Rail.

He denied there was any new split in his union's executive over the agreement on flexible rostering which the NUR has reached with the management but which Aslef has not.

☐ British Rail said last night that negotiations had failed after all-day talks to persuade train guards at Shoeburyness, Essex, who are members of the NUR, not to stage a 24-hour unofficial strike today over flexible rostering.

Government to compensate 400 closed shop rebels

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, plans to compensate some 400 workers dismissed between 1974 and 1980 because of Labour's closed shop legislation.

Under the Employment Bill, given its first reading yesterday, the Government will set up a £2m fund to make cash payments to employees who lost their jobs through conscientious objections to joining a union.

This is the biggest change in the Cabinet's proposed labour law reforms since they were published two months ago. As expected, the Bill exposes trade union funds to civil damages of up to £250,000 for each case of "unlawful action" by strike organizers.

Mr Tebbit said yesterday that Labour's industrial relations legislation enacted in 1974 and 1976 first created and then consolidated a situation which was morally indefensible by sanctioning the dismissal, without compensation, of employees in a closed shop solely on the grounds of their non-membership of a specified trade union, even when they were existing employees or when their objection was based on grounds of conscience.

"The Government have always taken the view that this was wrong and we ended this injustice by the enactment of the 1980 Employment Act. We are now seeking in this Bill a power to enable the Government to compensate those who were dismissed in such circumstances while the 1974 and 1976 legislation was in force but who would have been protected if their case had fallen under the 1980 Act. I believe this will be widely welcomed."

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, described the proposal as "nothing more than a shabby public relations gimmick". The trade union movement aims to decide a strategy of opposition to the new laws at a special conference on April 5.

The Department believes that about 400 people were dismissed as conscientious objectors, but there may be more. The maximum figure likely to be awarded by a special assessor is £7,000 but the Government calculates that compensation could cost about £2m over the next 18 months.

Many of the closed shop rebels were dismissed by British Rail. They will be compensated in the same way as the "Strasbourg Three" who won their case at the European Court of Human Rights. Others were employed in retail distribution, footwear, and other industries and by Labour-controlled local authorities.

The dismissed Walsall canteen assistants and Miss Joanna Harris, the Sandwell poultry inspector, are not covered by the new law because they were dismissed after Mr James Prior's Employment Act come into operation.

First reaction from the unions was predictably hostile. Mr Murray said it could turn out to be "the most foolish and damaging piece of legislation to be put before this Parliament". It could only cause conflict in industry, and employers tempted to use it should be warned that it could backfire.

"This is not just an anti-union and anti-worker Bill. It is an anti-industry Bill, and it will join its predecessor, the Industrial Relations Act, on the scrapheap."

Analysis of the Bill, page 7

What the Employment Bill will do

- Damages of up to £250,000 against unions through civil actions against "unlawful industrial action".
- Compensation of up to £20,000 for workers who lose their jobs for refusing to join a union where a closed shop exists.
- The outlawing of union-labour-only contracts.
- Selective dismissal of strikers who refuse to return to work.
- Redefinition of "trade dispute" to exclude political and inter-union strikes.
- Extension of state-funds for ballots on wage offers.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Bill to curb spread of sex shops

Local authorities, given new powers under a Bill now before Parliament, will be able to refuse an application to open a sex shop or sex cinema in any area where they consider it would be inappropriate or offensive (Our Political Staff writes).

That was announced yesterday when amendments were tabled to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, to give affect to a promise made before Christmas by Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, when he told the Commons the Government was aware of the deep concern many people felt about the spread of sex shops.

Prison policy under attack

The government's present prison building programme will do virtually nothing to relieve overcrowding or improve conditions, according to Ms Vivien Stern, director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

Many of the 5,000 new places to be provided during the 1980s will simply replace places lost through decay, damage and conversion.

Assaulted man was deported

A Nigerian student who said he had been kicked so badly by Brixton police in 1977 that he had to have a testicle removed was jailed in 1979 for four months for breaching immigration controls and was later deported to Nigeria, it was disclosed yesterday (Lucy Hodges writes).

The student, who has not been named, had entered Britain as a visitor in 1973, and had spent six years illegally in this country. The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board has since awarded him £1,500 after concluding that he was assaulted. The police have also given him £4,000 in an out-of-court settlement.

No more help for GLC fares

There will be no more government help to bail out the Greater London Council over cheap fares, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport made clear last night. (Our Transport Correspondent writes).

In a blistering comment on the warning yesterday by Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the GLC leader, that fares might have to go up another 50 per cent in the summer, after the 100 per cent in March, Mr Howell said that "preaching confusion and chaos for political ends" served no useful purpose for London Transport.

Belfast man on explosion charge

John Gabriel McComb, aged 28, of Arran Street, Belfast appeared at Marylebone Court yesterday, accused of plotting to cause explosions in Britain on days between November 26, 1978 and January 18, 1979. Armed police guarded the courtroom during the one-minute hearing. McComb was remanded in custody to appear at Lambeth Magistrates' Court on February 4.

Test tube inquiry

Test tube baby techniques are to be examined by a special committee of doctors to be set up by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

The news comes after Wednesday's disclosure that Mr Patrick Steptoe and Dr Robert Edwards, the test tube baby pioneers, are planning to freeze human embryos which could be given to unrelated infertile couples.

Detective cleared

Det Chief Inspector Maurice Garmston, aged 42, of Park Lane, Cottingham, Hull, the former head of Humberside Drugs Squad, was acquitted at York Crown Court yesterday on three charges of inciting burglary at chemists' shops. Judge Bennett, QC, ordered verdicts of not guilty after eight hours of pre-trial legal argument.

Terror detentions

Two hundred and seventy four people were detained under the counter-terrorism laws during 1981, compared with 537 in 1980. In 1975, the first full year when the laws were in force, detentions reached a peak of 1,067.

Looking ahead

The Sunday Times has decided to advance publication of the proposed "Look" section af its colour magazine from April to March 14.

Correction

Revalorization of personal tax allowances in line with last year's 12 per cent inflation, as outlined in the Finance Act 1980, would not cut the weekly tax bill by £5 a week for 21 million married taxpayers, as reported yesterday, but by only £1.50. Only the income liable to taxation would be reduced by £5 a week. For those receiving the single allowance the tax cut would be 98p a week, not £3.27, for those receiving married age allowance there would be a tax cut of £1.91, not £6.37, and for those on single age allowance, £1.27, not £4.23 a week.

Prior's rolling devolution plan upsets Tories

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was given a mixed reception by Conservative backbenchers last night when he told them he was determined to proceed with his plans for devolved government in Ulster.

He confirmed to a private meeting of the backbench Northern Ireland committee that he wants to set up an elected assembly in Ulster which would either nominate or elect an executive to administer powers granted to it under a system of "rolling devolution".

The concept envisages powers being gradually devolved as the new system of government develops. Although he did not use the emotive phrase "power-sharing" which has overtones of failure, Mr Prior made clear that under his ideas no powers would be devolved until there is agreement of a "weighted majority" of members of the assembly.

If that majority was 70 per cent, as he suggested it might be, proposals for devolution would need to be carried by a 70 per cent majority.

Mr Prior told MPs that he was anxious that there should be devolution as quickly as possible. Prospective members of the assembly would need to feel that the assembly would not be just a talking shop.

He had not expected unqualified backing from last night's meeting and after several speakers including Mr Julian Amery, Mr Ivor Stanbrook, Mr Barry Porter, and Sir Nigel Fisher, had expressed their opposition, Mr Prior said that to do nothing would be the worst of all options. There was a feeling among the people that there must be a way forward and he wanted to capitalize on it.

☐ The general election campaign in the Irish Republic began yesterday with both leading parties united in believing that one of the main issues facing the electorate is the parlous state of the economy and that tough measures were needed from whoever emerges as the victor in three weeks' time (Richard Ford writes from Dublin).

But Mr Charles Haughey, Leader of the Opposition, tried to widen the debate by pointing to the Republic's need for a stable government with a majority of at least eight and the Northern Ireland question.

However, faced with a campaign so soon after the general election of last June, both Fianna Fail and Fine Gael were looking at their finances to estimate what type of effort they could mount to persuade voters. Although neither will comment, it is widely reported that Fianna Fail, who conducted an expensive barnstorming nationwide electoral effort last year, owes more than £500,000; while the figure for Fine Gael is put at £170,000.

In spite of protestations to the contrary, the sudden defeat of the coalition on the first vote of controversial Budget proposals, surprised party organizations although with commendable effort posters were appearing in Dublin streets yesterday.

Provisional Sinn Fein said it would meet tomorrow to decide whether to put up any candidates. One estimate was that it would field at least six candidates in border areas.

"Oops!"

Rail tunnel choice for Channel link likely

By Our Transport Correspondent

The British and French governments are expected to choose a single-bore rail tunnel for the Channel link within the next two months. Whether it will be a six-metre tunnel for through trains only, or a seven-metre tunnel for road traffic on shuttle trains as well, remains an open question.

That means that promoters of bigger schemes like the British Steel Corporation's huge bridge and tunnel with offshore islands look like being disappointed. After exhaustive discussions between Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, and the eight promoters and between British and French officials after last autumn's summit meeting between Mrs Thatcher and M Mitterrand, the bored tunnel has emerged as clear favourite on grounds of speed, cost, and technical feasibility.

One surprising feature is the late come-back by British Rail's "mousehole" tunnel for through trains only, which last autumn seemed to have lost ground to the larger seven-metre tunnel in the belief that the latter would make a larger contribution to the economy and to Anglo-European trade, and would be easier to finance.

Mr Bob Barron, British Rail's senior executive working on the project, claimed yesterday that the small tunnel now showed a better financial return than the larger one. That was because the extra £100m cost of the seven-metre tunnel (£850m compared with £750m at 1979 prices) was the "straw that broke the camel's back" for private finance; because the capacity for only 130 trains a day, half of which would be through trains, was too little for viable road freight;

The issue of guarantees by British Rail of minimum traffic through a rail-only tunnel had still to be settled, Mr Barron said at a briefing in London by the European Channel Tunnel Group, with which British Rail is now associated.

☐ The twin-jet Boeing 737 airliner, one of which crashed on take-off in Washington this month killing 78 people, has encountered further safety problems, it was disclosed yesterday.

Airlines operating the 120-seat aircraft, of which nearly 1,000 have been built and ordered since 1965, have been told to make special checks for corrosion after the discovery of skin cracks over 2 ft long where the wing joins the fuselage.

The problem affects only earlier versions of the craft of which 14 were operated by a British airline. That is Britannia Airways, and Luton charter operator which said yesterday that it would be making checks but had experienced no problems.

SDP pledges rates curb

By David Walker

The Social Democratic Party in the London borough of Camden plans to promise residents to keep rate rises beneath the level of inflation.

According to the party's unpublished draft manifesto for the local elections in May, yet to be discussed with the Liberals, that will bring "a new element of discipline" into the spending of a council which under Labour control, has levied some of the highest cash rates in the country.

The SDP would gradually raise council house rents in the area by between £2 and £5 a week, in addition to the minimum rent increases imposed by the Government.

Given Camden's record as a high-spending but innovative authority, the local SDP's approach to managing the borough is sure to be influential elsewhere. Mr William Rodgers, one of the party's national leaders, is a Camden resident.

The SDP promises cuts in staffing in such areas as libraries and the architects' department. "Full use should be made of redeployment and voluntary redundancy."

☐ Agreement among SDP/Liberal supporters on candidates for the council elections in Richmond on Thames means that 40 Liberals and 12 SDP members will contest the wards, where the Liberals hold 21 seats.

Tories pick solicitor for Hillhead

From John Witherow Glasgow

The Conservatives said last night that Mr Gerald Malone, a solicitor, would be the party's candidate in the Hillhead by-election in Glasgow. He was selected soon after the Liberal-SDP Alliance disclosed that two former Labour parliamentary candidates in the constituency had joined the SDP.

Mr Malone, aged 31, has fought and lost three general elections and has some experience of taking on party leaders. In 1979 he lost to Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, by a 10,000 majority at Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles.

Although a Roman Catholic in a prodominantly Protestant constituency he has the advantage over Mr Roy Jenkins, the SDP Alliance candidate, of being a local man, educated at Glasgow University.

He said last night: "We are going to fight an enthusiastic campaign with a united party. We do not believe we shall lose and we shall be fighting a campaign on issues, not on personalities."

Mr Malone's endorsement came as a surprise after Mr Leonard Turpie, also a solicitor, failed to be chosen for the final selection meeting last night, when about 150 members of the Conservative Association voted by secret ballot after a two-hour meeting.

Mr Turpie had been considered until recently as heir-apparent to Sir Thomas Galbraith, who died earlier this month after holding the seat for 33 years. His majority at the last general election was 2,002.

But Mr Turpie was not selected for the final run off and Mr Malone defeated Mr Robert Kernohan, a journalist and former director-general of the Conservative Central Office in Scotland.

Earlier, Mr Jenkins, on a frief visit to Glasgow, took delight in announcing that Mr David Welsh, who fought both general elections in Hillhead in 1974 for Labour, and Mr Vincent Cable, a contender in the 1970 election, had joined the SDP.

"They are immensely welcome," the former deputy leader of the Labour Party said.

Mr Welsh, aged 42, a schoolteacher, comes ffrom solid Labour stock and his departure is a blow to the local party. He was at one time a member of the Scottish Labour party executive, and has been a prominent figure in Hillhead, where his support for the SDP will no doubt carry some weight

Latest opinion polls have put Mr Jenkins in the lead, but Mr George Leslie, the Scottish National Party's prospective candidate, said it was possible that he could split the vote and snatch victory.

Standstill on benefits for young

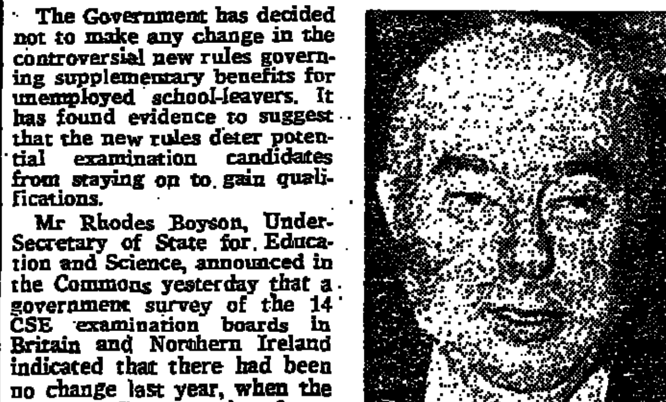
By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The Government has decided not to make any change in the controversial new rules governing supplementary benefits for unemployed school-leavers. It has found evidence to suggest that the new rules deter potential examination candidates from staying on to gain qualifications.

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in the Commons yesterday that a government survey of the 14 CSE examination boards in Britain and Northern Ireland indicated that there had been no change last year, when the new rules first came into force, in the proportion of pupils who entered provisionally for CSE examinations, and who went on to take the examinations.

Under the old benefit rules, a school-leaver could start claiming supplementary benefit, if unemployed, as soon as he left school. The change in the rules means that a pupil who leaves in the summer term is no longer able to start claiming benefit until September 1.

School heads expressed deep concern that that would



Mr Rhodes Boyson: Report on government survey.

encourage many pupils, including potential examination candidates, to leave at the end of the Easter term, provided they were already 16. By doing so they would gain four extra months of supplementary benefit at £15.25 a week (now £16.85).

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, told the Commons that there would be no change in the supplementary benefit rules for school-leavers until September, next year, when the new training initiative comes into force.

☐ Secret blacklists of incompetent teachers are being updated by local authorities in England and Wales after a call from the Secretary of State for Education and Science for their revision (David Lister, of *The Times Educational Supplement* writes).

At least 3,000 teachers are on the lists, *The Times Educational Supplement* estimates in today's issue. The journal has found that almost all the 104 education authorities have compiled blacklists.

Some chief education officers in the big cities have gathered as many as 70 names. In addition they say that some of their head teachers are succeeding in removing unwanted teachers without reporting them.

Clergy seek right to be MPs

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

A move to change the law so that clergy of the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church would be eligible to stand for Parliament has been started in the General Synod of the Church of England.

A motion to that effect has been tabled by the Archdeacon of Derby, the Ven R. S. Dell, and has received sufficient members' signatures in support to guarantee it debating time at the synod's meeting next month. Coincidentally, the issue has recently been raised by the provisional adoption of Rev Malcolm Smart, the Rector of Great Greenford, Middlesex, as prospective Labour candidate for Bexley, Erith and Crayford. He stated that he was seeking release from Holy Orders, although he would prefer not to, so that he could take his seat if elected.

The repeal of the Disqualification of the Clergy Act of 1801 would cover all who are, in common law, in Holy Orders, including, therefore, priests of the Roman Catholic and of the Orthodox churches.

Clergy of the Free churches are not regarded as in Holy Orders in this context, and a few have been elected to Parliament in the past. However present church unity proposals before the Church of England and the Methodist and United Reformed churches would, if implemented, bring Free church ministers of those churches within the scope of the 1801 ban.

In circles concerned with church-state relations the issue of clergymen in the Commons is usually coupled with the place of Church of England bishops in the Lords. Although church leaders have said in the past that they were prepared to see that privilege reviewed in the context of a general reform of the Lords, they would not welcome it being raised on its own.

The motion before the synod would result, if passed, in talks between the Government and the synod's standing committee aimed at persuading the Government to introduce a Bill.

A more contentious matter before the synod next month is the proposal to begin the enactment of new legislation to adjust the rules on divorce and the clergy. At present a candidate for the priesthood is automatically excluded by divorce, while there is no rule to prevent a divorced clergyman taking a position in a parish. The proposed change would bring both matters under the discretion of the local bishop, a relaxation in one direction but a tightening up of discipline in the other.

The synod will be asked to consider changes in the ceremonial procedures which accompany the appointment of a bishop, to exclude the "sham" of an election by the dean and chapter of which the result is a foregone conclusion.

Under a custom which survives from the Middle Ages, the senior clergy of the diocesan cathedral have to vote for the candidate nominated. There is never more than one, and since the Reformation a royal command has been delivered to the chapter at the time of the election, naming the man to be elected. Penalties for defying the royal will used to be draconian, but have now been abolished.

The Synod will also consider a change in the rule requiring all clergy to take an oath of allegiance to the Queen before accepting certain offices in the Church of England. This has sometimes prevented Anglican clergy who are not British subjects, particularly from countries like the United States, from accepting positions

Science report

Protecting the waters of Europe

By Tony Samstag

A consortium of Dutch environmental protection groups is organizing an international tribunal on water pollution to be held in Rotterdam next year. Much of the evidence is already on record, and a booklet outlining some of the more alarming statistics concerning the Rhine and the North Sea in particular is being sent to the 65 other European agencies involved.

Since the nineteenth century, the Dutch scientists report, inland fisheries have practically disappeared from the Rhine and Main river systems. In the past 25 years the population of seals in the Dutch Waddenzee has declined from 5,000 to 500, and fish and mussels from the North Sea and Waddenzee require continual monitoring to ensure that they are fit to eat.

Water authorities in Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands have identified about 2,000 different toxic impurities in Rhine water; even so, one estimate suggests that three quarters of the impurities present are as yet unidentified. The Rhine is an important source of drinking water in the region.

Companies using Rhine water for the production of drinking water issue an annual report on the quality of the river water. In 1980 the Rhine carried, inter alia, the following substances across the German-Dutch border near Lobith: mercury, 16 tons; arsenic, 322 tons; cadmium, 80 tons; lead, 1,200 tons; copper, 890 tons; oil, 8,900 tons; phenols, 400 tons; cholinesterase inhibitors, 48 tons; hexachlorobenzene, 3 tons; 3,4-benzopyrene, 4 tons; polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) 20 tons.

Dumping, quasi-legal and otherwise, by industry and governments (including, in the North Sea, the British) continues despite such international measures as the European Water Charter and the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution, the booklet's authors note.

The tribunal organizers clearly expect a welter of "convictions", which, properly orchestrated, could prove a huge embarrassment to all concerned.

Source: The Problem of our Water. (Stichting International Water Tribunaal, Damrak 37(1) 1012 LK, Amsterdam).

Anger over agriculture price rise proposals

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The European Commission's proposals for a 9 per cent increase in agricultural prices seem to have pleased no one. Yesterday they met with a hostile reaction from farmers, the food industry and consumer groups alike.

Mr Cyril Coffin, director general of the Food Manufacturers' Federation, described the proposed increases as a severe blow.

Higher prices for important raw materials like cereal, milk products and sugar would make it difficult for manufacturers to continue keeping the prices of their own products below the rate of inflation, he said.

Moreover, if the package were to be accompanied by revaluation of the "green pound", which the federation would certainly press for, "it would widen the gap between EEC and world commodity prices, and set back any serious attempt to reform the common agricultural policy."

The Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionary Alliance said the increase would add a further £37m a year to the industries' bill. More than threequarters of the foodstuffs they purchased were covered by the CAP.

Mr Alex McClumpha, chairman of the alliance's joint supply committee, said that increases on such a scale ran directly counter to the British Government's efforts to reduce the rate of inflation. He called on Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to isolate Britain from the effects of the commission's proposals by revaluing the "green pound".

Mrs Kate Foss, chairman of Consumers in the European Community Group, described the proposals as once again bowing to short-term political pressures, in spite of the ever increasing gap between production and consumption.

Even with a 4 per cent revaluation of the "green pound", the proposals would mean increases in the prices of flour, bread, sugar, butter, beef, poultry, eggs, bacon and pork, as well as many manufactured goods.

But the National Farmers' Union described the price proposals as inadequate. They would do little more in real terms than hold farming incomes in 1982 at about the very depressed levels of the last two years, it said.

The continuing severe pressures on the industry were illustrated by the fact that outstanding bank advances were well over three times as large as five years ago. Borrowing was needed in the main merely to maintain current operations, and investment in buildings, machinery and works had declined.

Sir Richard Butler, the NFU president, last night argued for the full 16 per cent increase requested by COPA, the European federation of farmers' unions.

Condemning what he called thoughtless and cruel" remarks about the alleged prosperity of farmers, he told the annual meeting of the NFU's Isle of Wight branch that net farm income in the United Kingdom was nearly £300m less in 1980 than in 1976. When allowance was made for inflation, real income had declined by over 50 per cent in those four years.

Rural areas 'should have single ministry'

☐ A national policy for rural areas should be coordinated by a single ministry, the Commons Agriculture Committee was told

The most explicit demand came from the Scottish Landowners' Federation which, in its written evidence to the committee, observed that one of the main difficulties facing rural communities was that different problems and different land uses were the responsibility of different departments.

But there seemed to be a consensus, both among representatives of landowning and farming organizations and among MPs on the committee, that the present disjointed system was unsatisfactory and led to unnecessary conflict.

Asked by Mr Douglas Hogg, Conservative MP for Grantham, whether such a coordinating role might be given to, say, the Ministry of Agriculture, Mr Rodney Swarbrick, chairman of the agriculture and land use subcommittee of the Country Landowners' Association, said he would support the idea.

In its written evidence, the association said that, if EEC policies were to have any real impact on the problems of remote areas, they needed to encourage entrepreneurs of all descriptions and not just farmers.

The Scottish Federation said there was an urgent need for a Community rural policy with objectives similar to those of EEC directive 75/268, which established special financial aids to farmers in less favoured areas, but should be quite independent of the Common Agricultural Policy.

☐ The Ministry of Defence last night denied that farmers who were helped by the RAF during the recent Arctic weather would face exhorbitant bills. The ministry would be reimbursed by the Ministry of Agriculture, which called in the military aid (The Press Association reports).

EEC milk prices, page 10

Mothers-to-be warned about too much dieting

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Excessive slimming among women at the time when they conceive can reduce their chances of having a healthy baby, it was said yesterday.

Mrs Margaret Wynn and Mr Arthur Wynn, a scientist, authors of a new report on preventing handicaps among new-born children, said that a woman's dietary, smoking and drinking habits at the time of conception are more likely to affect the health of her baby than her habits later in pregnancy.

"For parents to eat well before conception and during early pregnancy is shown by world medical records to be more important than the mother's diet late in pregnancy, when the unborn baby has a much greater capacity for taking what he needs from the mother and for looking after himself", Mr Wynn said.

"Many medical drugs and pollutants are also most damaging around the time of conception and in early pregnancy.

Mr Wynn said that common medical drugs such as aspirin and codeine increase the risk particularly for women who are ill-fed.

☐ A blood test could help doctors to diagnose depression more accurately and markedly improve its treatment, a symposium at The Priory hospital, Roehampton, London was told yesterday (Nicholas Timmins writes.

The test, known as the "dexamethasone - suppression test", measures the response of a particular hormone in the blood to a synthetic steriod. The hormone level in patients whose depression is due to a bereavement or other unhappy event drops markedly. But in those depressed by an abnormality of brain chemistry the hormone levels remain high.

Dr Alec Coppen, director of the Medical Research Council, Neuro-Psychiatry Research Laboratory at Epsom, whose laboratory is heading a World Health Organization study on the test said it seemed to be very sensitive. In one set of studies 81 per cent of patients who had been diagnosed by conventional means as suffering from endogenous depression produced the abnormal response.

If further studies confirm its early promise, the test should enable doctors to select the right drugs to treat differing types of depression, he said.

The test will be used also to discover when to stop treatment. If treatment is halted too early patients relapse, but there are widely differing opinions among doctors on how long theatment should be continued to prevent that happening.

"This is an exciting development, which if it lives up to its promise could markedly improve the treatment of depression," Dr Coppen said. "It is a relatively simple and cheap test and could certainly be used by general practitioners."

The Prevention of Handicap of Early Pregnancy Origin, by Margaret and Arthur Wynn (£5 plus 40p postage). Available from Foundation for Education and Research into Childbearing, 27 Walpole Street, London SW3 4QS.

Art evidence delay denied

By Geraldine Norman, Sales Room Correspondent

Mr John Baskett, chairman of the Society of London Art Dealers, said yesterday that the society's lawyers were still in possession of evidence on the issue of the buyers' premiums introduced last year by Sotheby's and Christie's. Mr Baskett, who announced earlier this year that the society would be handing the material to the Office of Fair Trading, was replying to charges of unnecessary delays.

The society and the British Antique Dealers Association, have instructed their lawyers to hand over the evidence in full. However, Waterhouse and Co, their solicitors, are having a big job sorting the files into order.

Mr Richard Crewdson, of Waterhouse, said yesterday that the sorting could take a few more days. Sorting papers, which had been introduced as evidence by the auctioneers to support points they originally intended to make in court, was one of the delaying problems he cited. A High Court action brought by the dealers against Sotheby's and Christies was settled out of court last September.

Mr Crewdson said that his firm had written to the office of Fair Trading last week to let them know that the material was on its way.

The Office of Fair Trading confirmed yesterday that they had received the letter.

Overseas sell'ng prices
Austria Sch 28. Bahrain BD 0.650: Belgium B frs 40: Canada $2.50: Canaries Pes 125: Cyprus 560 mils. Denmark Dkr 7: Dubai Dir 7.00: Finland Mkk 7.00: France Frs 7.00: Germany DM 3.50: Greece Dr 80: Holland Gl 3.25: Iran IR 135: Iraq LD 0.500: Irish Republic 30p: Italy L 1800: Jordan LD 0.425: Kuwait KD 0.450: Lebanon L1 4.00: Luxembourg Lf 53: Madeira Esc 75: Malta 30c: Morocco Dir 7: Norway Kr 7.50: Oman OR 0.700: Pakistan Rps 12: Portugal Esc 90: Qatar QR 7.50: Saudi Arabia

Ministers blamed for inaction over legal aid

By Marcel Berlins, Legal Correspondent

Two reports published yesterday castigate the Government for its lack of action over legal aid, its failure to introduce urgently needed extensions and improvements to the system, and for wasting public money.

The Law Society and the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Aid, in separate reports published jointly, call in particular for legal aid to be made available to parents in danger of having their children taken away from them in care proceedings, and for representation for applicants before mental health review tribunals.

Their general comments, however, rather than their specific recommendations, disclose the depth of frustration felt by those involved in administering the legal aid system.

"The continued failure to make a move in virtually any direction in the legal aid field, even when reforms are almost universally agreed to be desirable, stultifies the legal aid scheme," the Law Society says. "It is not just that the last five years have been largely wasted. There is the effect of immobility on the originators of ideas. They are likely to give up trying to improve the system."

Dr Ronald Tress, chairman of the advisory committee, says in a preface that there were some obvious moves to be made: "belated improvements and extensions which would add significantly to the quality of the legal aid system at modest expense; better arrangements in and around the courts which, if implemented, would yield savings which more than matched the cost of improvements and extensions.... Inertia has its own price, paid by people whose rights go unenforced or whose cases go undefended".

Both groups comment on the difficulties of introducing savings and reforms when responsibility for the legal aid system is spread among different government departments and committees.

They are anxious, too, to see the development of conciliation services aimed at resolving some of the disputes involved in marriage breakdown, outside the adversarial atmosphere of the divorce courts. Such schemes, they say, would save spending on legal aid.

It would be a scandal, the advisory committee says, if the pioneering Bristol conciliation service had to close for lack of funds. In fact, the Bristol scheme expects to hear details soon of a last-minute offer of reprieve.

The reports express concern and dismay that the financial legal aid limits last year did not keep up with inflation, with the result that there was a drop in the number of people eligible for legal aid.

Legal Aid: 31st Annual Reports of the Law Society and of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee (1980-81). (Stationery Office; £6.65).



Suresh Karadia

Sir Thomas restored to glory on his own land

In a studio in Chelsea, London, which was once a stable on Sir Thomas More's farm, the restoration has just been completed of one of the most important of England's pictures, a sixteenth-century group portrait of Sir Thomas More and his family (Christopher Warman writes).

Mr Patrick Corbett, who has spent 15 months restoring the large canvas, obtained the studio for the commission, partly to give Sir Thomas the chance to return home. The picture is owned by Lord St Oswald and has been hanging at his home at Nostell Priory in West Yorkshire since the early eighteenth century, when it arrived from a descendant of Margaret Roper, Sir Thomas's daughter.

It has been described as the most important English painting, and it is certainly a landmark in European painting. Mr Corbett says it was the first group portrait painted north of the Alps.

The painting is based on a pen and ink drawing by Hans Holbein dated 1526, done soon after the painter arrived in England from Basle with a letter of introduction to Sir Thomas from Erasmus. There are other versions of the picture: in the National Portrait Gallery, by Rowland Locky, and in the Victoria and Albert Museum, but there is disagreement about its authorship. "It is undoubtedly superior to the other versions, and if it is by Locky it is his master work", Mr Corbett says.

Some claim it was at least started by Holbein, but most experts believe it dates from about 1590. Mr Corbett says warily that it is sixteenth century and has sent a fragment of the canvas to Professor Paul Damon, in Arizona, to attempt to give it a more accurate assessment from a cellulose-dating technique.

The picture shows Sir Thomas and his family at Well Hall, Eltham, Kent, the home of his daughter Margaret Roper. He is shown at the age of 50, which puts the family scene in the year 1527, at the height of his power and prestige, eight years before his exection on the order of Henry VIII in 1535.

The painting, which will be returned to Nostell Prior in the next week or two to go on show once more, survived a fire there in 1980. The firemen doused the wall behind the picture, rather than the picture itself, to save it.

This is only the third time it has been restored. It was first restored in the 1760s by Sir James Thornhill.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Line on a map kills 70 jobs

An outdated boundary line is preventing Mr Denis Whitely, a chartered chemical engineer who has invented a device to monitor stock levels of any kind of liquid, from receiving a loan to expand his factory, and now he is thinking of moving abroad (Ronald Kershaw writes from Harrogate).

The development of Fuel Pumps Ltd, of Harrogate, would create more than 70 jobs and North Yorkshire County Council was ready to provide the finance until an official checked the Local Authority Land Act, 1963. That forbids the council from making loans in areas outside the former North Riding of Yorkshire, and Harrogate was in the old West Riding.

Mr Whitely said last night: "I am having so many problems in the United Kingdom my thoughts are coming round to the Continent. People on the Continent seem to have no trouble with EEC grants to which the British taxpayer contributes".

Pay cut agreed to save jobs

The 2,000 workers at the eight factories of the Christie Tyler group in South Wales have agreed to a wages cut and to go without a pay rise this year, after hearing that damage to some factories during the recent blizzards and losses in sales had cost £800,000.

Without the wage cuts up to 1,000 jobs might have had to go, Mr George Williams the chairman said at the company's headquarters in Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.

Three years ago the firm said some shop floor workers were earning more than £10,000 a year. In the first half of last year company losses topped £445,000.

Man dies in fire on 25th floor

A man died yesterday in a fire on the top floor of a 25-storey tower block in Wyndford Road, in the Maryhill district of Glasgow. An elderly woman and a student were taken to hospital suffering from the effects of smoke.

Residents were moved from the four uppermost floors of the building. Firemen took more than an hour to control the blaze.

Driving ban for soccer player

Alan Sunderland, the Arsenal soccer player, was fined £100 and banned from driving for a year by Tottenham magistrates yesterday after admitting driving with excess alcohol.

Sunderland, aged 28, of Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, had been involved in an accident at midnight on July 10 in Enfield, London, in which a man aged 43 and a woman aged 46 were killed.

The prosecution, which offered no evidence on a careless driving charge, said it did not attribute blame "in any way" for the accident.

Wenlock Edge cash appeal

The National Trust yesterday launched an appeal for £100,000 to buy one of Shropshire's best-known beauty areas. The Shropshire Hills appeal will be used to acquire part of the Wenlock Edge escarpment, ensuring improved public access.

The trust plans to buy nearly 200 acres, icluding part of the old Much Wenlock to Craven Arms railway.

Armed bank raid

Two masked raiders, one armed with a shotgun, escaped with £2,500 in bank notes from a branch of the National Westminster Bank in Mapperley, Nottinghamshire, yesterday. The police believe the same men were responsible for a similar robbery at a Nottingham branch of the Trustee Savings Bank three weeks ago.

New chance for kidney patients

From John Chartres
Handforth, Cheshire

More than 100 doctors and nurses from hospitals in the North-west of England were told yesterday of the opportunities available to them for the treatment of kidney patients by CAPD (continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis).

The conference was addressed and partly chaired by Dr Ram Gokal consultant physician at Manchester Royal Infirmary, formerly of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and expert in the treatment of renal failure. It was called because of an assessment that not enough is known in general medical circles about the success of the treatment in Britain during the past two years.

Those favouring the extended use of the treatment estimate that the lives of another 2,000 people in the United Kingdom could be extended by up to 10 years if it was used more, and if the National Health Service gave more financial backing.

The average cost per year for a patient being trained in, and carrying out the treatment at home, at work, in school, or even while on holiday, is put at about £5,000, compared with between £7,000 and £8,000 a year for home dialysis using conventional kidney machines and £12,000 to £14,000 for patients treated in hospital.

Among advantages claimed for the treatment, which was developed in the southern parts of the United States, are the freedom conferred on patients, enabling them to travel and carry out normal social and working lives, its suitability for the elderly and those suffering from diabetes or other illnesses, and indications that patients using it feel much better than when having used conventional machines either in hospital, or at home.

Mrs Phyllida Bradshaw, aged 33, of Bollington, Cheshire, who had been ill since the age of 19, was introduced to the treatment at Manchester Royal Infirmary early last year.

Anger over child road deaths

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

A highway code for children was launched yesterday by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Under-Secretary of State for Transport, amid controversy over the number of child pedestrian casualties.

The Pedestrians' Association claims that there has been little improvement in the safety of child pedestrians over the past 20 years and that the effect of government campaigns has been negligible.

Mr Clarke retorted that child casualty figures had dropped sharply during the 1970s and said that that was due to the introduction of the Green Cross Code for crossing the road, as well as to the efforts of parents, teachers and road safety officers.

He added that the trend was particularly encouraging when set against the big increases in traffic over the period, although, he said, one in every 15 children who die before the age of 14 die in road accidents.

The Pedestrians' Association case is largely based on Department of Transport figures showing that more child pedestrians were killed and seriously injured in 1980, 6,893, than in 1958, when the total was 6,640.

However, the 1980 total represents a big improvement when compared with the levels of the late 1960s and early 1970s. In 1970, the figure was 11,607 and in 1972, the first full year of the Green Cross Code, 11,502.

The new code, *A Highway Code for Children*, has been produced by the County Road Safety Officers' Association, with help from the Department of Transport. It will be available from local authority road safety departments.

It is intended for children aged nine and over to read and also to help parents and teachers to instruct children.

The code's 20 pages cover walking, cycling, riding in cars, use of buses, riding horses and control of dogs. The initial print was 300,000 copies.

Pope to tour scene of Toxteth riots

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

The Pope will tour the Toxteth area of Liverpool when he visits the city in May. His route will take him along the street which was the scene of civil violence last July. His motorcade will travel along Upper Parliament Street where mobs faced thousands of policemen during the six days of rioting.

The visit has caused problems for the police. Merseyside County Council has said it cannot afford the estimated £600,000 in police overtime pay alone. It is appealing to the Government for financial help.

More than a million people are expected to line the whole of the 11-mile route from Liverpool airport to the Anglican and Catholic cathedrals where the Pope will conduct services for Christian unity on May 30.

Protestant extremists have threatened to disrupt the visit and tens of thousands of Irish Catholics are also expected to come to see the Pope. A spokesman for the Liverpool Catholic Archdiocese said: "We are absolutely delighted that the Pope's motorcade wil be travelling through Toxteth. After all the troubles, it will be a terrific boost to the morale of the people that live in the area".

"I am sure that, like everywhere else the Pope will go in Liverpool, there will be thousands of people there to see him."

The news was given a cool reception from black community leaders in the area. Mr Michael Showers of the Liverpool 8 Defence Committee said: "We wrote to his Holiness sometime ago asking him to come to Toxteth and view the problems first hand. Obviously we are pleased he will be driving through the area, but then Mrs Thatcher did the same thing. What good does a car ride do? It doesn't achieve anything.

"We would like to show the Pope the institutionalized racism that operates in Liverpool".

□ Mr Michael Montague, the chairman of the English Tourist Board, has said a big tourist campaign could transform Liverpool into a thriving centre of leisure and entertainment. He called on businessmen and politicians yesterday to show "an act of national faith" in Merseyside.

Michael Scott, at Lord Halifax's estate, near York.

Game for a first

From Our Correspondent, York

When Michael Scott first donned his deer stalker he raised a few aristocratic eyebrows. For at 30 he had fulfilled an ambition to lay claim to the title of Britain's first black gamekeeper.

After hundreds of letters in search of a worthwhile job he settled in as head man on a 2,500-acre estate owned by Lord Halifax's family, near York. And no one caused a flap when he made his debut in charge of the game for this season's shooting.

"I've lived in the country all my life and you don't find much prejudice here," he said yesterday. "My bosses are more bothered about how well I do the job than the colour of my skin. There is a lot of competition for the few jobs in gamekeeping and if there was any recial bias I wouldn't have stood a chance".

Reading test broke Race Act

By Lucy Hodges

A Northampton food manufacturing company which asked job applicants to read safety signs in English before being taken on as factory hands has been found to have broken the Race Relations Act.

Henry Telfer Ltd of Northampton employs 1,200 people of whom about 19 per cent were born abroad. Last year the personnel manager decided to introduce a literacy test for job applicants, which involved reading signs written in English. In doubtful cases candidates had to read one sign in health and another on safety.

Following that, three people, one born in India and two in Italy, were refused jobs. They complained to an industiral tribunal, with the help of the Commission for Racial Equality, and the tribunal decided by two votes to one that the company had indirectly discriminated aginst Messrs Guiseppe Laporta and Alfredo Marrazo and against Mrs Manjula Shah.

In a written decision the tribunal said it did not think the literacy test was justified, and the company could have made more use of picture signs. The two men had considerable experience of factory work and had encountered no problems and, added the ruling, many other immigrants in Telfers who had not done the test were working satisfactorily.

"Obviously, members of an immigrant community will have problems in reading written English. If they cannot get this type of work what type of work will they be able to obtain? It will severely harm their employment prospects. It will have a disproportionate effect on this community."

The tribunal added that the way to resolve the difficulty of people not being able to read important signs was for their fellow employees to tell them what they meant. "We think it more likely than not some of the existing workforce could not read the signs when they started; there has been no direct evidence as to whether they can or cannot read, but in view of the substantial multiracial composition of the workforce, we think it a realistic possibility. If they could and can cope, surely new employees could cope."

Mr D. C. James, the dissenting member of the tribunal, thought the literacy test was justified as a reasonable measure to improve efficiency. The company wanted to improve the quality of its workforce and ran a risk with employees who could not read signs.

"In addition to any serious problems arising out of failure, ssuch as the employee putting his hand in a machine or putting poison in the pork pies, there is the day-to-day risk of such an employee who has failed the test not being as receptive to orders as an employee who has passed."

There was evidence that the company was making losses.

North Sea oil tax structure criticized

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

The entire structure of the North Sea oil taxation system, which is forecast to net more than £5 billion for the Exchequer in the present financial year, was criticized by the Comptroller and Auditor General yesterday.

The criticism, delivered in a special report to Parliament, could well embarrass the Chancellor to the Exchequer, who has promised to make a definitive announcement on permanent new fiscal arrangements in his Budget statement on March 9.

Mr Gordon Downey, the Government's independent auditor, said that is was inevitable that the oil taxation system would be complex.

But his report suggested that the uncertainties of the system could themselves be damaging to the oilfield economy.

He also pointed out that the effectiveness of the system had been thrown into doubt by the fact that the advanced computerized model run by the Inland Revenue had been unable to give accurate essessments of oilfield profitability.

Mr Downey says in his report that the Government and the oil companies need to be certain of the results of changes in taxation if the Government is "to be sure of achieving its objectives".

But He adds: "Under the present multi-layered structure, with each element assessed on a significantly different basis, an adjustment in one element is likely to interact in a complex way with one or other of the other elements.

"This tends to make the results of taxation adjustments difficult to assess."

The implicit suggestion of that remark, couched in the language of the Exchequer and Audit Department, is that the uncertainties of the present system could damage long-term prospects in the North Sea.

Mr Downey points out that the Chancellor has promised the oil companies that he will consider representations on oil levy reform in time for his Budget this year.

The Comptroller says that that will give the Treasury "an opportunity to look again at the basic structure of the regime".

Nevertheless, Sir Geoffrey also told the Commons last year, when he introduced yet another tax element, supplemetary petroleum duty, that "exhaustive consideration" had failed to produce ant satisfactory reform.

The oil industry's main representative bodies submitted proposals for reform last October.

But if the Chancellor decides against reform, yesterday's report from Mr Downey will stand in permanent condemnation of the existing structure.

For the Comptroller's overall comments are underlined by additional remarks in the "adequacy of the present taxation structure".

He says in this detailed section of his report: "Because of the wide variations in the circumstances of different fields, it is difficult to assess the effects of changes in the tax arrangements on the profitability of North Sea oil operations, and hence the likely impact on the level of further investment there."

That reflected such items as the efffect of tax changes, rates of production, inflation and exchange rates.

But Mr Downey reports: "Their best estimate of the post-tax internal rates of return on fields currently under production or development ranged from about 5 to 30 per cent in real terms.

Council inquiry into chief's plan to marry

From Our Correspondent, Ludlow

A council has decided to set up a committee of inquiry into matters surrounding the relationship between its woman chairman and the chief executive.

Three councillors and a barrister will consider the position of Mr Norman James, aged 55, chief executive of the Wyre Forest District Council, Hereford and Worcester, who recently announced his intention of divorcing his wife and marrying Mrs Jean Munslow, the council chairman.

Councillors decided by 21 votes to 13, during a meeting in closed session, not to suspend Mr James during the investigation. Mrs Munslow remained in the chair during the meeting.

The committee of inquiry has also been instructed to look into any related matters that may come to its attention. Some councillors are known to be concerned that the relationship may breach the local government code of conduct.

After the meeting Mr Graham Ballinger, chairman of the council's planning and highways committee, announced his immediate resignation from the council. He said he believed an impartial investigation would be impossible unless Mr James was suspended.

"I am concerned about the attitude the chief executive has adopted throughout this matter", Mr Ballinger said. "I am also concerned that public money is being spent to employ a legal adviser from outside when the whole matter is bound to be cramped by the presence of the person they are looking into.

"I question the ability of any inquiry to investigate the capability and credibility of a senior member of the authority while that member of staff remains in post. It is naive to assume that any inquiry could be impartial while the chief executive has full access to all departments.

CHAUFFEUR JAILED FOR KIDNAP

A chauffeur who organized the kidnapping of his Saudi Arabian employer's daughter, aged 11, was jailed for 15 years by the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Susantha Karunaratne, aged 38, was described as a lying hypocrite by Judge Abdela, who said: "There must be a deterrent sentence in this case. I look on this matter as disgraceful.

Karunaratne, of Austin Road, Luton, was convicted of kidnapping Reem Al Harithi near her home in Knightsbridge, London, on June 23 last year, holding her prisoner in a flat at Kingsbury, North London, and demanding £150,000 from her father, Major General Mashhour Al Hatithi, aged 55, a former Saudi Arabian military attache in London.

Mr Allan Green, for the prosecution, said that the girl was abducted while Karunaratne was supposed to be taking her to school.

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin
Guglielmo Marconi
George Bernard Shaw
Elvis Presley
David Lloyd George
Sir Edwin Lutyens
Sir Banister Fletcher
Prince Chula Birabongse of Siam
Gracie Fields
Sir Billy Butlin
H.M. The King of Serbia
Henry Curtis-Bennet K.C.
Douglas Fairbanks
Pierre Michelin
Howard Hawks
Sir Frederick Henry Royce
Ernest Hemingway
Claude Johnson
Hugh Trevor-Roper
Vladimir Horowitz
Mae West
Baron Edouard de Rothschild
The Nizam of Hyderabad
W R Vanderbilt
The Maharajah of Mysore
Sir Jesse Boot
J. Arthur Rank
Lord Kitchener
Tommy Sopwith
H.M King Carol of Rumania
Lord Beaverbrook
Sir Malcolm Campbell
J. Pierpont Morgan
Roberto Rosselini
The Marquis of Crewe
H I M Haile Selassie
The Maharajah of Cooch Behar
The People's Republic of China
(Unknown purchaser)
General Franco
Gary Cooper
The Third Duke of Westminster
Nubar Gulbenkian
Alfred Bird
Sir John French
Lord Fisher
The Marquis of Exeter
Lord Birkenhead
Lord Baden-Powell
Edgar Wallace
W.D. Wills
R. D'Oyly Carte
The Maharajah of Patiala
Jack Warner
Jack L. Warner
S. Gestetner
Pola Negri
Sax Rohmer
Sir Terence Rattigan
R.C. Sherriff
Cary Grant
W. Somerset Maugham
Peter Sellers
Marshal Tito
Aristotle Onassis
Greta Garbo
Lawrence of Arabia
President Woodrow Wilson
Marie, Dowager Empress of Russia

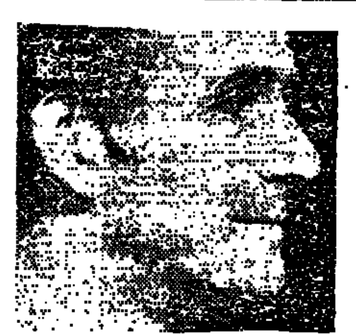
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PARLIAMENT January 28 1982

Fortnight for survey of De Lorean affairs


Butler: Firms's assurance about credit

COMMONS

The make-up of the board of the De Lorean Car Company is to be subjected to an independent survey on behalf of the Government, Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, said during questions in the Commons. He announced that Coopers and Lybrand had been appointed to carry out this survey and report within 14 days.

Replying to questions about the state of the car firm, Mr Butler said: There is a point beyond which one cannot go. We have an acute responsibility to the taxpayers in the way money has been used and have to take that into account as well as the situation of the workers and unemployment in the province.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighly, Lab) asked if the Minister was satisfied with the current voting rights of the Government directors in the car company.

Mr Butler: Under the arrangements agreed by the previous administration, the Northern Ireland Development Agency is represented by two nominated directors on the board of the company. In view of its minority shareholding, the agency does not have voting control.

As I informed the House on *January 19, it is the Government's intention* that such matters as the board's membership should be included in the proposed independent consultants survey. In this regard, I can now inform the House that Coopers and Lybrand have been appointed to carry out this survey and report within 14 days.

Nothing in the Government's present words or actions should be taken as committing any *further Government assistance* or comfort to the De Lorean companies. The directors of the company have said that in continuing to trade, they will not incur any credit which they cannot meet.

Mr Cryer: Would he agree that with the massive public contribution to this company there ought to be a majority shareholding on behalf of the taxpayers? Would he also accept that the two directors who have watched £8m go to Lotus Cars via a Panamanian company and proposed bonuses of £400,000 to the directors last month, should be replaced?

It is a disgrace that after contributing £83m the taxpayer does not even own the car. The only way to provide certain future jobs is by public ownership under the National Enterprise Board.

Does he accept that this particular private enterprise venture appears to be a rip-off for the directors and a potential disaster for the workers?

Mr Butler: It was the Labour Government of which he was a member which came to the arrangement with Mr De Lorean and if that Government with its philosophy in regard to nationalization was not prepared to have a majority shareholding, he will not be surprised if I do not agree with his proposals.

Mr James Kilfedder (North Down, UU): It is remarkable and scandalous that the De Lorean car company which is in such financial jeopardy should have provided Mr De Lorean first class travel by Concorde to New York and back for one meeting.

Seven directors flew from Belfast to New York for this one meeting at a cost of £15,000. Will that matter also be investigated?

Mr Butler: He must appreciate the importance of the board meeting which was called at very short notice to consider some important points which had been put to Mr De Lorean and other directors by the secretary of state (Mr Prior).

Mr Gerard Fitt (Belfast, West, Soc): This company was a ray of hope given to a constituency that has had so many unemployed over so many years and the fact that his administration has continued to give support to this undertaking is a vindication that the right steps were taken by the previous Labour administration.

There is a dreadful sense of uncertainty attaching to every employee. They do not know from one week to the next whether their job is going to be there. Whatever conclusion he is going to come to, will be come to it as quickly as possible to do away with this?

Mr Butler: He speaks and feels, and rightly so, about the anxieties of the workers at the plant. The management will be meeting with the unions and will say to them what they can about the situation.

We will treat this matter with all speed in the interests of the workers at the plant and also in the interests of the public stake which is in this company.

Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, C): He and his predecessors were warned consistently from both sides of the House about the commercial prospect of this enterprise and the financial integrity of Mr De Lorean. Mr De Lorean boasts openly in New York that he has a headlock on the British Government and that it will always pay up in the end.

If the minister wants to use taxpayers' money on job creation schemes in Northern Ireland, would it not be better to find a way without subsidizing the extravagant life-style of a lot of American con men?

Mr Butler: He cannot quite appreciate the success of the company in producing a car from a green field site, nor does he perhaps appreciate the commercial acceptance of this car on the market. It has been hit hard, in the same way as Ford and General Motors cars, by the sudden and unexpected depression in the car market in the States.

I will not comment on the word "headlock," but Mr De Lorean


Cryer: Rip-off for directors

can be in no doubt about the Government's mind following two meetings with Mr Prior.

Mr Don Concannon, Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Mansfield, Lab): The unemployment rate in Northern Ireland is 20 per cent or over and is running in the area where this factory is at 50 per cent. With the dreadful news today that Mackies are laying off 500 in this area it is no laughing matter.

For me it is not a personal thing with Mr De Lorean. I am much more concerned with the 7,000 workers involved, directly or indirectly, with this firm.

The Opposition deeply regrets the De Lorean projected redundancies which have resulted in large part from the collapse of the American car market.

Certain misconceived utterances, some of them made at the end of last year, have not helped the situation nor helped to save the public credibility of this operation.

The fight to save De Lorean cars is a symbolic one not confined to Mr De Lorean but for the 7,000 workers and the 7,000 jobs it provides not only now but in the future for Northern Ireland.

Still some way to go — Prior

ULSTER

There was a momentum in Northern Ireland towards some form of devolved administration, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said.

The union would be best maintained, he went on, if there was a growing recognition by the people in Northern Ireland that they should have a devolved government in which there was adequate provision for the interests of the minority. MPs should not think that it would be an easy business; he did not have a panacea for the problems of the province.

Mr Prior said that he was anxious to see some responsibility for their own affairs restored to the people of Northern Ireland through their elected representatives.

I am (he continued) discussing with *local political parties means of transferring power* that would be broadly acceptable to the whole community. The discussions I have held have been valuable and they are continuing. No final decisions have yet been taken but I recognise the need for action.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) Could he give an idea of the timescale and when he expects to be able to present some proposals to the House?

Mr Prior: *I wish I could give an idea of the timescale.* It will depend entirely on how the talks go. It would be better if we took a little bit longer and were careful in the way we put the proposal forward. There is still *some way to go before I could be* in any way confident that I would be able to put proposals to the House.

Mr James McCusker (Armagh, Off UU): Inadvertently or otherwise he is creating a momentum towards a devolved assembly in Northern Ireland which, if it does not lead to a satisfactory conclusion, will lead for further alienation and disenchantment in *the community.*

Mr Prior: I recognize there is in Northern Ireland a momentum towards some form of devolved administration. This is a momentum which has not been created entirely by myself, but by the wishes and desires of the people of Northern Ireland, who believe that the time is right for this to happen.

It is as much a matter for the Unionists making clear their views as much as anything I could say to them (he said to further questions).

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C): It would be better as a first step before seeking to impose devolved government on Northern Ireland, to allow them to have the same local government authorities as we have here.

Mr Prior: I do not think that the same conditions for local government persist in Northern Ireland as here. What is more, the people of Northern Ireland are asking at the moment for a form of devolved administration.

These are matters for discussion, but if we are to return to the people of Northern Ireland politicians who will not go to the extremism of the last few years, then it is essential that they should have political responsibility as soon as we can arrange it.

I hope (he added) that MPs are not going to think this is an easy business, or that I have a panacea for the problems of Northern Ireland. I am afraid that would be asking too much.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on the new nuclear power programme.

Tuesday: Coal Industry Bill, second reading. New Towns Bill, remaining stages.

Wednesday: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, remaining stages. Private Bill: Consideration of Lloyd's Bill.

Thursday: Debate on an Opposition motion on the need to improve the lot of the elderly.

Friday: *Private Members' Bill:* Planning Inquiries (Attendance of Public) Bill and Death Grant Increase Bill, second readings.

The main business in the House of Lords next week will be:

Monday: Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, committee, third day.

Tuesday: Social Security (Contributions) Bill, report and third reading. Civic Government (Scotland) Bill, committee, fourth day.

Wednesday: Debate on economic and social effect of over-reliance on market forces.

Thursday: Debate of the Scarman report on the Brixton disorders.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members Bills. Food and Drugs (Amendments) Bill and Dangerous Household Products (Child Safety) Packaging Bill, second readings.

Cabinet decide to keep to broad strategy

PM's QUESTION

At this morning's Cabinet meeting it was thought right to continue on the broad strategy which the Government had followed hitherto, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, informed MPs at question time.

The issue has been raised by Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition who asked: Can she say whether the Cabinet gave any consideration to the plight of the unemployed who have grown in such huge numbers under her administration, and whether she and her Cabinet can be persuaded to restore the £13 a week cut being imposed on so many unemployed families? (Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: We had an excellent Cabinet, a very useful discussion. We thought it would be right to continue on the broad strategy which the Government has followed hitherto, and in particular that it was essential not to jeopardise the objective of reducing inflation, which is one of the best ways to achieve recovery and the prospect of new genuine jobs.

On the earnings related supplement which ceased on January 2 for new claims, only one in five of the unemployed were entitled to earnings related supplement. (Labour interruptions)

Mr Foot: As for the excellent Cabinet, we shall await the usual leakages to see whether her claims are correct.

Has she studied the headline in *The Times* today which said "Benefit for jobless at 1951 level"? She has pushed back the pay for people who are unemployed to a lower level than it has been since 1951. When is she going to rectify that? If the Prime Minister cannot stop the numbers of unemployed rising, at least let her show some compassion for the unemployed. (Labour cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: Unemployed benefit is now roughly double what it was in 1951 that is fact and the supplementary benefit safety net remains.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Quite apart from those unemployed losing earnings-related supplement worth £13 a week, including the injured miners in hospital in Glasgow, the nurses looking after the miners are being asked to take an 8 per cent wage cut by this government. So dont let us have the Prime Minister telling us there is not enough money in the country when the Duke of Westminster and his cronies (Labour cheers) can pick up a hospital site at Hyde Park Corner for £23,000 when it is worth 20 million quid.

Mrs Thatcher: The whole of the St George's Hospital site was allowed to the hospital at a peppercorn rent for decades and decades and it seems reasonable to honour the agreement to return it.

Mr Skinner, perhaps, would not agree with honouring a legal agreement.

The pay bill for nurses was 76 per cent above what it had been when the Conservatives came to office and the Scottish miners had available to them the benefits of the industrial injuries scheme.

Compensation for sacked workers

The Employment Bill, presented by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, which among other proposals would provide compensation out of public funds for certain past cases of dismissal for failure to conform to the requirements of a union membership agreement, was given a first reading.

Earlier, during Prime Minister's questions, Mrs Thatcher referred to the "disgraceful legislation" passed by the Labour Government when last in office, under which people could be sacked from a job they had been in for years merely because they refused to join a union.

Pym refuses debate on rail dispute

The Government had no intention of providing time for Commons debate on the British rail dispute at present, Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the Commons said during questions on next week's business.

He was replying to Mr Leslie Huckfield (Nuneaton, Lab) who said the dispute was about to reach its third week.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C) had earlier said: In view of the recent report that three out of 10 children cannot do simple sums and a large majority cannot even read a railway timetable, time should be found to debate education and a return to the teaching of the three Rs in schools.

Mr Pym: Perhaps the House may be able to find some opportunity to debate education in schools although I do not think a debate is likely to have an immediate affect in children's capabilities.

Nor do I think the ability to read a railway timetable would be particularly helpful today. (Laughter).

Budget will continue process of steady recovery

THE ECONOMY

The Government with unimaginable bungling and doctrinal absurdity had turned the asset of North Sea oil into a liability and foistered on its people the greatest economic disaster it had known in 50 years, Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said during an Opposition debate on the Government's economic policy.

Mr Shore (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab.) moved a motion stating that the House believed that the Governments deflationary economic policies were the prime cause of the massive decline in output and the massive rise in unemployment from which the United Kingdom had suffered since May, 1979, and that it was only through a major and planned expansion of production and demand that the nation could be put back to work.

He said that one in eight of Britain's work people was now without a job. Like a contagious disease, unemployment had spread throughout the whole country, visiting every region, every town and every community. The worst area of all, Northern Ireland, had nearly one in five out of work and even the most favoured, London and the south-east, had one in eleven who were jobless.

Most worrying was the exceptionally high concentration of unemployment on the youngest age-groups of the working population. Of the 16 to 24 year-olds no less than one million were out of work and of those between 20 and 24, half that age group, over 21 per cent were out of work.

The political, social and psychological consequences of this appalling experience that so many young adults were now living through were incalculable. *Nor could what had happened be* described as a shake-out of labour — maintenance or improvement of output with a sharply reduced but much more productive workforce.

The Government had been *claiming that that was what had* happened, and that there had been an improvement in productivity during these past months. There had, compared *with* a year ago, but all this was wholly outweighed by these facts.

Output per worker last summer was 2½ per cent lower than it was in May, 1979. In October, for the first time, manufacturing industry productivity per person as distinct from the economy as a *whole*, reached *the level* that *it* was in May, 1979.

Manufacturing output was down by 17 per cent in this period and the gross domestic product was 7 per cent less than it was in May, 1979.

Most disturbing of all, Britain's competitiveness in relation to its overseas competitors had declined by 35 per cent since Sir Geoffrey Howe took over the reins at the Treasury.

After nearly three years of this Government's economic policies, the nation was substantially impoverished, there were record figures of unemployment, demoralized workers, and enforced idleness and alienation for a large number of Britain's young people and smouldering discontent in virtually every section of the nation, and the most unpopoular Government on record since polls began.

The Government blamed the doubling of oil prices for its troubles and those of the OECD. But while the OECD countries suffered an increase in unemployment of 60 per cent, the increase in this country had been 130 per cent. So unemployment here had risen more than twice as fast as anywhere else giving Britain the highest rate of unemployment for any major *industrial country.*

Another difference between the first oil shock and the second, was that at the time of the first Britain did not have its own supply of oil yet by 1979-1980 Britain had become self sufficient and even an exporter of oil. This should have led to a reinforcement of its position, not a diminution.

This Government (he said) with its unimaginable bungling and doctrinal absurdity has turned this asset into a *liability* and foistered on its people the greatest economic disaster it has known in 50 years.

Is there any other oil producer world (he continued) who has not been enriched first by the quadrupling of prices and secondly by the redoubling of oil prices, any country that s except Britain and its present incompetent Government?

The Government said the plight of the nation was due to massive wage and salary payments that greatly increased the relative unit costs of our goods and services. Britain's costs had


Shore: Greatest economic disaster for 50 years

certainly increased. They increased in 1979 when the *Government was formed.* Far from arresting that increase the Government through its deliberate policies in pushing up prices and the abandonment of all price restraint, not to mention its doubling of value added tax, *greatly increased the wage* inflation not only in 1979 but in 1980 as well as the greater part of 1981.

For the first time not only had the exchange rate in a floating exchange rate world failed to take account of the relative *increase* in Britain's costs but Government policy had pushed the exchange rate further up to compound and make worse the loss of competitiveness from which this country had suffered.

Why did the Government operate high interest rates, forcing up the minimum lending rate from 12 per cent in May, 1979, to 17 per cent during the course of 1980? Why did it maintain interest rates at such a *level that the pound actually* reached nearly $2.40 a year ago? Why was the Government even now reluctant to operate in any way to bring down the exchange rate?

The answer had been set out in a hundred *speeches by the Prime Minister* and her colleagues and embodied in two red books: the financial statements for 1980-81 and for 1981-82. According to the Government, the root of all evil was inflation and that could only *be dealt with* by controlling the money supply.

The control of the money supply, as defined in terms of sterling M3, could best be achieved by establishing a target rate and then adjusting the price of money by putting up interest rates to discourage any excess borrowing beyond the laid-down limit. The British economy had been set and confined within the framework of money supply targets.

Along with this marvellous instrument of control of inflation the Government had pursued two *other targets: a steady reduction* in public expenditure and an accompanying reduction, as it hoped, in the size of the public sector borrowing requirement. It was the damage that had been done to this country, its industry *and people by the pursuit*, however unsuccessful, of these two ludicrous monetarist targets that was the principal explanation for the appalling collapse of the British economy.

It had been the pursuit of *public expenditure economies in* the period of recession that had led to the butchering of community programmes and at the same time the massive increase in the least productive though inescapably necessary of all forms of government *expenditure*: the maintenance of millions of men and women in enforced idleness.

Much rubbish was talked about the terrible burden of the national debt. The national debt as a percentage of the gross domestic product had fallen steadily through the post war period. Further, but highly relevant to the past decade when substantial Government borrowing had taken place for the first time since the war, the public sector debt had not increased, but continued to fall. There was no danger of it coming out of line with the national growth.

To insist that the public sector borrowing requirement should, irrespective of the depth of the recession and the massive resources of machinery, money and people lying idle, be reduced year by year until the perfect bliss of a balanced buget was achieved *was more than a mischievous* nonsense, it was a deliberate attempt to bring about unemployment and to increase the recession.

The problems were large enough without the self-imposed *constraints that arose through* the exploded dogmas of monetarism. Those problems, as they had been for years, were how to achieve a satisfactory balance of payments consistent with a high level of employment; how to achieve a satisfactory rate of growth in a world of fast changing industry and technology, and how, with an endemic tendency in the country's institutional structure towards inflation, to keep inflation in order and to bring it down to almost *tolerable single* figures. Those problems had been exacerbated by the past three years of misrule. It would need a major effort of Government, industry, trade unions and the whole community — if the nation was to be put back to work and — the expansion of the economy and the creation of jobs would have to be given overriding priority.

Something of the order of a £6,000m increase in spending power was needed for 1982-83; a *substantial injection of purchasing power was required over* and above what had been available in 1981-82.

The real economy had declined *by 8 per cent which should* be a matter of concern to every MP.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU), intervening, said Mr Shore had called for an injection of £6,000m more of demand. He should make clear the mechanism for injecting this extra demand.

Mr Shore: In a recession it makes sense to borrow. (Conservative laughter). As to what Labour will *do on its return to power,* the first and obvious thing is that a *major increase in public expenditure will take place.*

It was among the nationalized industries where some of the important and exciting technical developments were taking place in the economy — telecommunications, broadcasting, oil, gas, *coal, public transport and* aerospace.

If the Government could for a moment take its mind off the prospect of private plunder at the expense a great nationally-owned resource, it will have already backed and supported the gas gathering pipeline scheme in the North Sea. The failure to cary forward the project was an appalling ecxample of the waste of Britain's precious energy resources. Moreover, it was a major political error.

An alternative gas supply would have been abailable not only for Britain's own use but as a reserve of great assistancein some ciuntries in Western Europe. France and Germany would have known there was an alternative gas supply from the North Sea rather than from the Soviet Union.

Updating and development of the urban transport system was urgently needed.

Public spending increases would not be enough. The major concern must be to restore the competitiveness of British industry in relation to its overseas rivals. Despite the Government's *boasting, competitiveness* had suffered dreadfully. There must be a major attack on the unneessarily high cost of British industry.

National insurance surcharge must be reduced. There must be an energy pricing policy to make sure that Britain was at least as competitive in fuel prices as other countries. The most important single way to restore competitiveness was to allow the exchange rate of the pound to reflect the real competitive strength of British industry. The pound was too high. It had to come down to a level where British manufacturers could fight their rivals on equal terms.

A *serious dialogue was needed* with major corporations which played so large a part in national manufacturing output and total exports. Control must be restored over capital movements.

The opposition could not accept that the nation's great financial institutions, the insurance companies and pension funds, those who increasingly controlled the collective savings of people at work, could simply transfer this money and invest it in the industries and products of overseas rivals.

Labour would bring back exchange controls and seek to operate them as before. The one thing they could agree with the Government was that there was no easy way ahead. Only the most radical and determined national effort would serve to retrieve their fortunes.

It was a time for decisive bold economic decisions and for the nation to give overriding priority *to the greatest problem* of mass unemployment and collapse of British industry (Labour cheers).

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, moved an amendment: "That this House endorses Government polices to reduce inflation and improve output and comptitiveness, and so create better prospects for employment on a lasting and sustainable basis".

He said the grim unemployment figures represented hardship and despair for many of their fellow citizens, but he complained at Mr Shore's repeated habit of dealing with the matter with crude abuse of the Government and its policies. Allegations that the Government had deliberately brought about the unemployment figures did nothing but harm to Mr Shore's reputation, that of the House, and fell short of what people were entitled to expect from the Opposition (Opposition protests.)

It was astonishing to contemplate the conflict between his reckless disregard of any form of *financial* discipline and the attitude of those in the last labour Government who unlike Mr Shore were directly responsible for the economy.

He appeared to talk about monetarist policy and the control of *public spending as though* those things were strange dogmas. The charge he sought to support by reckless arguments wasthat loss of competitiveness, output and jobs in recent years had sprung only from the rise in the exchange rate and the Government's emphasis on monetary policies. That charge commanded little credibility because people who thought about thses things realized that unemployment was the tragic symptom of long-term and deep-seated economic problems besetting the country.

The value of the pound sterling had grown under this Government. While in 1973-74, oil prices increased four times, in 1979 there was a two-and-a-half times increase. The real price of oil had fallen since the third quarter of last year.

Mr Shore offered a policy of deliberate depreciation of the currency. While that might bring with it some short-term benefits, it carried with it an immediate and substantial inflationary risk and more serious medium and long-term disadvantages. Too often in the past a change in the *value of the currency had served* only to mask the underlying problems rather than to remedy them.

The real cost of the loss of competitiveness was the huge growth of labour costs, culminating in the explosion *of labour* costs over which Mr Shore and his colleagues had presided, and the massive pay explosion that they left behind them.

Over-manning had for too long concealed the true scale of unemployment. It had fallen to this Government the task of trying to reverse that long process.


Howe: Lower labour costs assist investment

The Government had not been content to address itself only to the symptoms but to treat the disease itself. The basic task had been to halt and reverse the rise in inflation.

Every responsible Government throughout the world had recognized that it was only when inflation and inflationary expectations were curbed that it could *hope to create on a sustainable* basis the conditions for economic growth and fuller and secure employment.

Over the last 30 years the average inflation rate had been higher in each successive government. Under *the last government* it had been 15 per cent. If this Government maintained the progress that had been made in the last 18 months, it would be the first Government in 30 years to achieve a lower average rate of inflation than *previous* governments and to have reversed the underlying trend.

High interest rates were now a worldwide phenomenon. In the 1970s they were lower than inflation rates but they had now become positive worldwide, even in countries like Germany and Switzerland. Unemployment last *year* rose in all Britain's major competitor countries apart from Canada and this year further increases were expected in them all. Elsewhere the rate of increase in unemployment had escalated; in Britain it was *slowing down.*

Last year was one of tremendous turbulence on financial markets and one lesson to learn from that experience was that international investors would remove their money without *hesitation from any country* which showed signs of financial laxity.

There were now clear signs that the public attitude was changing. The nation now accepted that inflation would affect competitiveness and productivity. More people realised that no employee whether in the private or public sector was automatically entitled to a pay increase of any particular amount.

There was also a realisation that money had to come from somewhere and had to be earned, and that Britain could not afford to repeat the mistakes of previous years.

Days lost through stoppages were lower than at any time in the past 15 years and wage settlements at 4 to 6 per cent were substantially below the level of the last wage round.

If they were to keep up this *recovery wage settlements had to* be kept at this sort of level. By keeping down labour unit costs they would encourage investment and so create new jobs. It was important to have a higher level of investment in the nationalised *industries but that investment* had to be matched by better performance and better productivity.

The Government's task was to sustain and build upon the foundations it had laid. This year it expected modest but soundly-based progress. His forthcoming Budget would be designed to maintain the process of steady recovery. The Government would continue to create the conditions for sustainable economic growth.

We are now (he went on) quite plainly moving in the right direction. (Conservative cheers). Mr Shore may not like those facts, but he must accept them *and recognize their importance.* The country is winning the battle and recovery is starting to move ahead. We have always made it plain that it will be a long process. Sadly, and to the regret of everybody in the House, the *course of unemployment* will turn later than any of the others.

In my Budget (he continued) I am determined to do all that I responsibly can to sustain and maintain the progress that is now becoming apparent to everyone *except apparently the Opposition.* We have laid secure foundations and intend to go on building sensibly upon them. That will be right for growth, inflation, employment and the country.

Government majorities in jobless debate

The Government motion on the unemployment situation was carried in the Commons last night by 291 votes to 246 — Government majority, 45, after the Opposition amendment had been rejected by 293 votes to 213 — Government majority, 80. In later stages of the debate,

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, said industry had lost customers to competitors. It was not government that created jobs, nor was it employers, it was customers.

Central to the debate was the question of whether or not firm monetary control was part of the solution or part of the problem. The Opposition parties failed to recognize that every major OECD *country protected* its currency by controlling the money supply. They had been doing so for some years. All over the world governments were aiming to reduce the level of borrowing.

Mr David Lambie (Central Ayrshire, Lab) said the Tories had always been the party of unemployment. They were during the 1930s and they were again today. He was looking to the crisis meeting of the Cabinet to get a change in Government policy. Britain needed a U-turn.

Mr Kenneth Carlisle (Lincoln, C) said there was general agreement that they could not tolerate the present level of unemployment for long. The problems had grown from the mistakes of 20 years or more. They were a direct result of deep structural problems in the economy.

Claim that redundancy has peaked

HOUSE OF LORDS

An attempt by the Opposition to remove from the Social Security (Contributions) Bill the requirement for employees to contribute towards the cost of redundancy was rejected by 155 votes to 65 — Government majority, 50, during the committee stage of the Bill in the House of Lords.

Moving the amendment which would eliminate the employee's contribution to the Redundancy Fund, Lord Bruce of Donnington (Lab), for the Opposition, said that this was an impost which should not be made. It lacked any equitable or moral justification, and lacked any sense of justification. Above all, it had been expressly repudiated by direct inference in the Conservative Party manifesto.

The Redundancy Payments Act, passed by a Labour Government in 1965, was one of the most revolutionary measures passed. It removed sense of insecurity in the pre-war years, and the sense of despair, futility, frustration and financial hardship of the unemployed.

It was a cordinal principle of the original Act that contributions towards redundancy should be made in part by the employer and in part by the Government, and that the employee paid no part of the cost, except through unual taxes. It had not been anticipated that employees should contribute as part of their National Insurance contributions an money towards the Redundancy Fund.

It was still true that the firm was responsible for the redundancy, and the Government of the day created the climate in which firms found it necessary to make people redundant.

Lord Banks (L), said that redundancy payments were not an extension of eunemployment benefit, and potential victims of redundancy were not unually expected to contribute to their own compensation or potential compensation. It was wrong to include such contributions in *such a way in this Bill.*

Lord Elton Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said that the loss of revenue which would be caused by the Opposition amendment would be £353 million. The very sharp increase in redundancies in the past year or so had meant heavy calls on the Redundancy Fund and the total number of payments had inreased from 552,000 in 1980 to 888,000 in 1981.

Although *the indications were* that the peak was now past, Government estimates showed that a 0.35 per cent was a minimum increase needed to bring about a reasonable reduction in the fund's deficit during 1982.

Without additional funding from contributions, the fund would not keep within statutory borrowing limits. The Redundancy Fund was an insurance scheme which insured employed workers against the loss of their work. It provided them with a useful capital sum at a time of *difficulty. It did not benefit* the employer; it protected the employee, yet up to now 100 per cent of the contribution had to be found by the employer.

The Bill changed the law and required the worker to contribute to that protection, not to pay for it, but contribute towards it. The lion's share would still come from the employers. The employee would pay about one quarter. There was neither morality nor logic in what the Opposition were trying to do.

Lady Joger, (lab) for the Opposition, in proposing that Clause 1 which increases contributions, should be left out of the Bill, said she accepted the Treasury needed extra money but the reason wa because of the large *increase in unemployment* since the Government came to power. When unemployment went up to four million, would the contributions have to go up again?

The Opposition believed that an increase in income tax was fairer than an increase in National Insurance because it was more closely related to income, including unearned income.

Lord Elton said it was expected that in 1982; only £13m extra would be needed for retirement pensions. The money in the clause was needed for many things and it must remain part of *Bill.*

The Opposition amendment was rejected by 112 votes to 61 — Government majority, 51.

مصورة من الأصل

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Government's analysis of Employment Bill

This is the Department of Employment's clause-by-clause analysis of the 1982 Employment Bill.

Compensation for closed shop victims:

Clanse 1 and Schedule 1 enable the Secretary of State for Employment to pay compensation to those who were dimissed for non-membership of a trade union in a closed shop under the last Government's Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974 and 1976, and whose dismissals would have been unfair had the closed shop provisions of the Employment Act 1980 (except those which relate to ballots) been in force. This means people who were dismissed for non-membership in closed ahops between the comong into force of the 1974 Act and the coming into force of the 1980 Employment Act and who were either existing employees of their employer before the closed shop agreement took effect in their firm of who objected to union membership on grounds of conscience or other deeply-held personal conviction. Schedule 1 also sets out the maximum sums of compensation which the Secretary of State may pay (ie broadly what the dismissed person would have been awarded if he had brought a successful complaint of unfair dismissal) and enables him to appoint a person to advise him on applications for compensation.

Dismissal for non-membership of a trade union:

Clause 2 amends Sections 58 and 58A of the Employment Protection (Consolisation) Act, 1978, to enlarge the circumstances in which dismissal for non-membership of a trade union in a closed shop is to be regarded as unfair. The principal new circumstances are:

(i) Where a closed shop agreement which took effect before August 15, 1980, has not in the five years preceding the dismissal been supported in a secret ballot by 80 per cent of the employees covered by it or 85 per cent of those voting; and
(ii) Where at the time of dismissal the employee concerned has obtained or is seeding from an industrial tribunal a declaration under Section 4 of the Employment Act, 1980 that he has been unreasonably excluded or expelled from his trade union.

For the sake of clarity the amended versions of Sections 58 and 58A are set our in full in clause 2.

Clause 3 puts a minimum of £2,000 (subject to reduction on account of the dismissed employee's conduct before dismissal etc) on any basic award of compensation which may be made to a person unfairly dismissed for non membership of a trade union or for trade union membership and activities. (At present the basic award in such cases in between ½ week's pay and 1½ weekks' pay for each complete year of employment (depending on age) subject to a aximum of £3,900 but not to a minimum.)

Clause 4 creates a new award of compensation, called the "special award", for those who are dismissed unfairly because of non-membership of a trade unon or because of trade union membership r activities. The special award will be made in such cases where the dismissed employee asks the tribunal to me an order for reinstatement or reengagement, whether or not the tribunal decides to make such an order. Where no order is made, the amount of special award will be 104 weeks' pay subject to a minimum of £10,000 and a maximum £20,000. Where an order is made, but the employee is not reinstated or reengaged, the amount of the special award will be 156 weeks' pay subject to a minimum of £15,000. In both cases the special award is additional to any basic or compensatory award. The special award as well as the basic and compensatory awards may be reduced on account of the employee's conduct before disissal.

Clause 5 enables an employee who is claiming to have been dismissed unfairly for not being a member of a trade union to "join" as a party to the unfair dismissal proceedings any trade union or other person who he claims put pressure on the employer to dismiss him by calling or threatening industrial action. Currently only employers can "join" unions in this way. Where a trade union or other person is "joined" in the proceedings and the tribunal finds that it did exert pressure on the employer to dismiss unfairly, the tribunal can award compensation for the unfair dismissal wholly or partly against the union or other person rather than against the employer.

Clause 6 enables those who claim they have been unfairly dismissed for non-membership of a trade union to apply for "interim relief" (ie for an order continuing their employment until their complaint of unfair dismissal is heard). Under Section 77 of the 1978 Act interim relief is already available to those dismissed for trade union membership or activities.

Selective dismissal in a strike:

Clause 7 applies to an employee who is dismissed while taking part in a strike. An employee will not be able to claim unfair dismissal provided that his employer has (i) given notice to every employee on strike that any employee who does not return to work within a specified period of at least four working days may be dismissed; (ii) not dismissed the employee in question before the expiry of the specified period; and (iii) dismissed all employees taking part in the strike at that time. Clause 7 does not affect the employer's existing right to dismiss strikers without notice.

Action short of dismissal:

Clause 8 extends an employee's right not to have action short of dismissal taken agaimdt him by his employer, in order to compel him to be a trade union member, to the additional circumstances in which his dismissal for non-membership of a trade union would be unfair under the new provisions of clause 2.

Clause 9 extends the new provisions described under clause 5 to cases of action short of dismissal for non-membership of a trade union..

Union labour only requirements:

Clause 10 makes void any term in a commercial contract requiring the contractor to use only union labour (or only non-union members) in fulfilling the contract. It also makes it unlawful to terminate a contract, to exclude from a tender list of to refuse to invite tenders from or make a contract with a person on the grounds that anycne employed or likely to be employed to fulfil the contract is, or is not a union member.

Clause 11 removes the legal immunities from trade unions and other persons who put pressure on on employer to act contrary to clause 10. It also removes the immunities from those who organize action by employees which interferes with the supply of goods or services on the ground that work done in connexion with the supply of those goods or services is or had been performed by non-union or union members.

Trade union immunities:

Clause 12 repeals Section 14 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974. This brings the legal immunities for trade unions (and emloyers' associations) into line with those for individuals, with the effect that trade unions may be held liable for unlawful acts committed outside a trade dispute and for action which is already made unlawful by the Employment Act, 1980. The clause describes the circumstances in which a trade union is to be regarded as liable for the unlawful acts of its officials.

Clause 13 puts upper limits on damages which may be awarded against a trade union in civil proceedings (except in some cases of personal injury or connected with the ownership of property). The limits are defined by reference to the number of members in a trade union: fewer than 5,000 members, £10,000; 5,000 to 24,999 members, £50,000; 25,000 to 100,000 members, £125,000; more than 100,000 members, £250,000.

Clause 14 specifies certain property from which damages costs or expenses may not be recovered in any proceedings against a trade union or employers' association.

Trade dispute:

Clause 15 amends the definition of a "trade dispute" in Section 29 of the 1974 Act. It specifies that a trade dispute must be between workers and their employer, and removes from Section 29 disputes between workers and workers. It requires that a trade dispute must relate wholly or mainly to the subjects in Section 29(1) of the 1974 Act, rather than merely be connected with them. The clause also excludes disputes relating to matters outside the United Kingdom unless the persons taking action in Great Britain are likely to be affected by the outcome of the dispute.

Other provisions:

Clause 16 empowers the Secretary of State by order to change from weeks to calendar months or years the periods of continuous employment which determine entitlement to certain statutory employment protection rights and payments. These include redundancy, maternity and guarantee payments and the right to statutory notice and to complain of unfair dismissal.

Clause 17 contains provisions as to interpretation and with Schedules 2 and 3 makes various amendments which are consequential to the main Bill and a number of other minor amendments to the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, 1978. The main minor amendments are briefly explained in the attached.

Clause 18 enables the Secretary of State to bring the Act's provisions into effect by order, except for Section 1 and Schedule 1 which shall come into effect on Royal Assent.

Minor amendments:

Paragraph 1 enables industrial tribunals to hear complaints that written statements of main terms and conditions of employment are inaccurate.

Paragraph 2 has the effect that, in cases where an employee has resigned because his employer has broken (or shown his intention to break) a fundamental term of the employment contract, the period of service used for calculating whether he qualifies to bring an unfair dismissal claim is extendedn by a period equal to his statutory minium notice entitlement. This brings the position into line with that of workers dismissed by their employers without notice.

The amendments to "continuity of employment in certain schools" in **paragraph 3** mean that a teacher moving within the same local education authority (LEA) area from one type of LEA school to another will no longer be counted as breaking the continuity of his employment for the purpose of calculating statutory rights. They will also enable a volunteer for redundancy from one type of school in a LEA to become eligible for a redundancy payment when his job is filled by someone from a different type of school within the same LEA whose job has, in fact, come to an end.

Paragraph 4 provides that the maximum eight weeks arrears of pay which may be paid from the redundancy fund to an employee whose employer has become insolvent must, where possible, consist of complete pay weeks.

Pragraph 5 enables the Secretary of state to pay without delay debts owed to employees of insolvent employers and payable under the insolvency provisions in circumstances where a delay of six months would at present be needed.

Paragraph 6 extends all the employment protection rights which are enjoyed by employees to employed spouses.

Paragraph 7 enables the Secretary of State to provide by order for interest to accrue on industrial tribunal awards of compensation from the date of the award. This will bring the position of these tribunals into line with the other courts in this respect.

Finally, it has been accepted practice in the Employment Appeal Tribunal for interlocutory matters to be determined by the Register or by a judge sitting alone. **Paragraph 8** makes it clear beyond doubt in the legislation that the Employment Tribunal has the power to determine interlocutory matters in this way.

Preacher, wit and master of order

By George Clark

In the days of optimism for regionalists, when the Labour Party was proposing legislation for devolution of power to Scotland and Wales, *The Times* carried a speculative story to the effect that Mr George Thomas, the boy from Tonypandy, a former Methodist lay preacher and schoolmaster, would almost certainly become the first Prime Minister of Wales.

That wastly amused the Labour MP for Cardiff, West, who did in fact become Secretary of State for Wales from 1968 to 1970, but it really was a typical example of the modesty of a man who celebrates his 73rd birthday today, having been Speaker of the House of Commons since 1976.

There is speculation that he is to retire, or to announce that he will not stand at the next general election.

Mr Clement Freud, Liberal MP for the Isle of Ely, sought leave on Tuesday to introduce a Bill creating a special constituency, without electors, to be known as St Stephen's, to which the Speaker would be consigned on his election to the Chair. He referred to the newspaper speculation about Mr Thomas not standing again.

Mr Thomas intervened. "Order!" he said. "It is grossly discourteous for the honourable gentleman to refer to my personal position."

Harry Kerr

Mr George Thomas, who is 73 today, in the Speaker's State Room at the Commons.

He maintains that as Speaker he is in a better position than most MPs in bringing local grievances to the Government's attention.

Mr Thomas likes to recall the battles he fought for leashold reform which remedied a long-standing grievance of thousands of people in South Wales. As a consequence of industrial development, few people owned the leasehold of their homes. When 99-year leases expired, many people either lost their homes to the ground landlord or had to pay heavily for the freehold.

By fighting that campaign George Thomas built up a popularity which has lasted 30 years. Born in Port Talbot in 1909, he was brought up in the Rhondda. His mother was sctive in politics, and when he enteredf the fray, capturing the seat of Cardiff Central in 1945, she was a powerful guiding force. He has never married.

He now has the well-earned reputation of being the most humourous of speakers since the war, a man who can bring the most heated bursts of temper to a placid end.

He it was who told a Labour MP that his supplementary question was "even longer than a Methodist sermon," and who commented, in lilting tones, when a Scottish MP complained that she could not understand the "scouse of a Liverpool backbencher: "There are many accents in this House. Indeed, I wish I had one muself."

Mr Thomas still occasionally delivers a sermon in church. In the midst of a tremendous uproar in the House one day he restored order by simply recalling the religious ceremony which precedes every day's sitting. "Order, Order!" he shouted. "It is but an hour since we were praying for heavenly wisdom from on high. Alas, it seems that our prayers are not answered every day.

Spark may have caused pit blaze

From John Witherow Glasgow

An inquiry into the pit fire at Cardowan Colliery, near Glasgow, continued yesterday as 27 injured miners were still in hospital with burns.

The National Coal Board in Scotland said the result of an investigation, made jointly with engineers from the Mines' Inspectorate and representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers, would be made known as soon as possible. The Government has said the findings will be made public.

One theory of the cause of the accident, which sent a "fireball" racing down a shaft 2,000 feet underground, injuring 40 men on Wednesday morning, is that a coal cutter sparked on a stone, igniting high levels of methane gas.

Mr William Grant, aged 30, a miner at the colliery, said: "It was fortunate that the coal dust did not go on fire. If that had happened then God knows what the result would have been".

Seven men were badly burnt and one, Mr John O'Rourke, aged 31, who had a fractured skull was said to be in a critical condition. The condition of the remainder were said to be stable last night.

There seems to be no suggestion that the colliery was dangerous although it was known occasionally to contain high levels of methane.



Even abandoned farms, such as this one outside Verona, were searched in the nationwide hunt for General Dozier, which ended 50 miles away in this flat in Padva

How the Italian commandos 'cracked' Red Brigade

by Our Foreign Staff

It was at 6 pm on December 17 that four men disguised as plumbers rang the doorbell of the sixth floor apartment in Verona of Brigadier General James Dozier.

Dozier, aged 50, who fought in Vietnam with an armoured regiment, had been in Verona for just over a year as deputy chief of staff for logistics and administration for Allied land forces in southern Europe, and was the senior United States Army officer at the Nato headquarters in Verona. His command included an array of United States Army units, Italian Alpine troops units and a non-nuclear United States air force missile base.

Mrs Judith Dozier opened the door. She was overpowered and bound. Dozier fought the intruders, members of the Red Brigades, who hit him on the head with a pistol.

He was forced into a trunk and loaded into a car, leaving Mrs Dozier tied but unhurt in the apartment. She freed herself and called the police before a caller to the Italian news agency said: "This is the Red Brigades. We have kidnapped Brigadier General James Dozier in Verona, Via Lungo Adige 5, a communiqué will follow."

Dozier was the first foreigner to be taken by the Brigades, which kidnapped and murdered Aldo Moro, the former Prime Minister, in 1978. They issued five communiques as police throughout Italy searched flats and farmhouses, and stopped cars.

The communiques said Dozier was being held in a "People's prison." They threatened him with "proletarian justice" for his role in Nato and alleged massacres during his service in Vietnam. One communique contained what purported to be a transcript of the General's interrogation and the kidnappers also released two photographs of him posed beneath their banner with the five-pointed Brigade's star.

There were rumours that the general was about to be released for a ransom said to be as high as $9.8m (£4.5m) the toughly-worded fifth communique appeared to rule out an early release, saying that the working class had "nothing to negotiate" with the bourgeoisie.

But recently the impression arose that the Red Brigades was not succeeding in stage-managing the operation as it wished. The five communiques in the 42 days, was a less frequent rate than in previous kidnappings of prominent italians, and they were full of ideological ramblings with no clear idea of what the Brigatisti wanted. Something was not working.

Five thousand Italian security men were in the hunt with "technical assistance" from Americans. The Italians rounded up a Red Brigades terrorist "column", which operated in the area of Verona. "It was a textbook operation. They cracked the column, the people talked and they followed up every single lead. The did it right and it worked", said a US official yesterday who asked not to be identified.

On January 4, plainclothesmen arrested two alleged terrorists as they drove through central Rome, armed to the teeth and apparently planning a kidnapping. Five days later police charged into another apartment hideout in rome, arresting one of their top terrorists, Giovanni Sewzani, and seizing an arsenal of weapons. Last weekend five more alleged terrorists were arrested in the countryside north of Rome by police hunting the killers of two young policemen in a bank robbery at the central town of Siena.

A special commando unit of the Italian security police located the Padua Apartment on Wednesday night but held off the raid until daytime yesterday, fearing that a night-time atack might endanger the general's life. Us officials in Washington were notified and agreed.

Ten handpicked police commandos from a crack anti-terrorist unit formed three years ago in response to the Moro murder were assigned to the raid.

The special agents for security operations are the elite unit of the interior ministry's anti-terrorist squad. Normally wearing camouflaged overalls and carrying gas-masks, they are all marksmen trained to use a range of weapons including bazookas in risky operations against terrorists.

The special agents report to the central operative nucleus for security, known by its Italian acronym Nocs. Their exact numbers and the location of their headquarters are a secret.

The Interior Ministry founded Nocs and recruited the special agents as part of the stepped-up campaign against political violence following the Moro abduction in March, 1978. The Red Brigades killed Moro after the government rejected the terrorists' demand to free a number of their jailed comrades.

Heavily-armed police sealed off the area around the Padua apartment at dawn and set a bulldozer to work nearby to cover the noise of the raid. The commanndos broke down the door and grabbed the first terrorist in the hall. A second was overpowered as he aimed to shoot the hostage, huddled in an anorak. The others were spread through the four-room apartment.

All those arrested yesterday, police said, were male and Italian and two were said to be well-known to security forces. There was no hint in the operation of any of the international links which press and politicians in Italy had attributed to the kidmapping.

But in Washington at the State Department, Mr Frank Perez, acting director of the Office for Combatting Terrorism, suggested "a foreign connexion". He refused to name any countries or groups. "We have no direct evidence", he said. "But the various Italian authorities have suggested an external connexion."

Vicenza, — The highest ranking U.S. army General in Italy, jubilantly recounting the return of his second-in-command, said the first thing General Dozier wanted after his release was a barber.

Under arrest, six alleged Red Brigades terrorists. From left, Antonio Savasta, one of the five held yesterday, Ennio Di Rocco and Stefano Petrella, detained in Rome, Pietro Muzzi, Gino Aldi and Gianfranco Fornoni all arrested this year. Savasta, aged 27, has been wanted in connection with the Moro case

Gee, it's good to see you, says Dozier

Major General McFadden, commander of the Southern European task force headquarters in Vicenza, Northern Italy, said General Dozier was thin but appeared to be in excellent health. He said there was no sign that General Dozier had been tortured.

He was quite good-looking with his beard and moustache, but he looks like Jim Dozier now George McFaden told a news conference.

Last night the general was undergoing a physical examination at the base hospital.

His wife Mrs Judith Dozier travelled to the base from West Germany, accompanied by her daughter, Cheryl, and son Scott.

Major General McFadden said the Dozier's would probably stay in the army base for the foreseeable future.

"My goal on the arrival of Mrs Dozier is to get her immediately with her husband, and I intend to say goodbye and close the door, and I'm not going to let anybody except the family get into the quarter", he said.

In his opening statement, the major general said: "All Italians can be quite proud of this victory". He praised the high professionalism of all Italian security men involved in the search.

Extraordinary security measures were in effect at the base. United States soldiers and Italian policemen with automatic weapons guarded all entrances. They used mirrors to search under cars for hidden bombs.

Americans at the Nato base responded with tears and embraces when they heard the news over the public announcement system. There was an immediate emotional response, mostly crying and hugging, tears of joy, U.S. Air force Captain Herbert Smith said. Asked how General Cozier reacted when they met, Major General McFadden said: "just about his usual response when we would meet . . . a very friendly smile, a handshake, and he said 'Gee I'm glad to see you'."

President Reagan said that "a lot of prayers have been answered" when told of the successful rescue.

The President was told the news by Mr William Clark, his national security adviser, shortly before seven o'clock in the morning in Washington. The spokesman quoted the President as saying: "a lot of prayers have been answered. It's difficult to express gratitude to all those who have assisted in his release". A few hours later the President telephoned General Dozier and talked to him for about two minutes.

The release of the general was hailed by Italian politicians including Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini, by Pope John Paul and by Nato officials. A Vatican spokesman expressed "relief and satisfaction". The Rev Romeo Panciroli, said there is "great relief and satisfaction in Vatican circles over the liberation of General Dozier, and with the meaning it has for our society and for the senior American officer's family who has worried and suffered for so may days."

The Prime Minister said General Dozier's release was "Great news". He was echoed by Enrico Berlinguer, leader of the Communist Party who said in a telegram to Virginion Rognoni, Minister for the Interior, "I am happy to send my personal worm congratulations and those of the party for the liberation of General Dozier and the simultaneous arrests."

In London, Mrs Margaret Thatcher congratulated the Italian Government on an "excellent operation." She added: "I would like not only to congratulate the Italian Government but to say how thrilled we all are that he has been found alive. It is a matter of great relief that he has been found alive and restored to his family."

Mediation in Poland

Secret negotiations may free Walesa into church hands

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 28

The secret talks between the Roman Catholic Church and the Polish Government on the release of Mr Lech Walesa, the detained Solidarity leader, have reached a crucial stage.

For the first time Mr Walesa was accompanied by both legal and church advisers in talks with Mr Josef Ciosek, the Minister for Trade Union Affairs raising fresh speculation that the Solidarity chairman may soon be transferred into church hands.

The position of Mr Walesa and he whole subject of internment and church-state relations are expected to dominate the meeting next week between the Primate Archbishop Jozef Glemp. and the Pope. Certainly no final decision on Mr Walesa can be taken without consultation with the Vatican, which has been closely following the Polish crisis. The Pope has received and replied to at least one letter from Mr Walesa.

According to sources close to the negotiations, Mr Ciosek visited Mr Walesa last Friday in Kostantin, outside Warsaw. Where he is under house arrest. There have been several earlier meetings, but none involving legal experts.

Apart from the two lawyers, Mr Walesa was accompanied by three church advisers including his parish priest fromGdansk. The advisers questioned among other things Mr Walesa's legal status. The government has been reluctant to admit that he is formally interned but a letter from Mrs Danuta Walesa his wife, to the Gdansk regional prosecutor brought the issue into the open.

Her husband, she said, had not been charged nor had he been "temporarily detained" because he would have to be released in 48 hours. The government should immediately clarify his status, she said.

That is the first legal step towards his transfer from house arrest to church control. It is understood that there are still a number of problems, above all because the church does not want to been seen taking sides. Its role, church spokesmen repeatedly say is that of mediation.

Over the past few weeks there have been repeated rumours about the imminent release of Mr Walesa, but these have usually underestimated the complexity of such a move. The Government would certainly be happy to release Mr Walesa, providing that brought him closer to agreeing to head a reconstituted depoliticized trade union.

The church, too, would welcome the opportunity to play a moderating role in trying to bridge the still quite considerable gulf between Mr Walesa and the Government. Mr Walesa, meanwhile, is insisting that he will negotiate only with the full Solidarity praesidium most of whom are interned.

Archbishop Glemp recently visited Bielalenka internment centre where many of the Solidarity praesidium are being held. But he is understood to have come away disappointed, convinced that the union leadership is now even tougher than it was before the military takeover six weeks ago.

The hope is now that the Vatican will be able to cut through some of these problems, though simply putting pressure on the Government is no longer sufficient.

The Primate has also prepared a comprehensive report on internment conditions which will be summarized for the Pope. The social council advisory unit to the Primate reported to him last Saturday on conditions of detention, and many bishops have been visiting internment centres since last week's joint episcopal-government commission.

The church understanding of General Wojciech Jaruzelski's speech on Monday is that there is absolutely no hope for an early end to internment, however intense the pressure.

The immediate goal must thus be to ensure that conditions in the camps are as tolerable as possible and, indeed, there seems to be some evidence that this is being achieved.

The church estimates the total number interned now roughly tallies with the government figure — about 5,100, according to church sources, compared to just under 5,000 announced by General Jaruzelski.

Reports that the Primate's participation in the Vatican trip reflects a broad split in the episcopate have been denied by senior church sources. Originally Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, the Pope's successor as the Archbishop of Cracow, was to have headed the delegation.

There has thus been speculation that the Primate's decision to head the delegation was because he was worried that his more conciliatory approach might not be fully represented by some of the hardliners within the episcopate.

Gromyko's war taunt against US

Berlin, Jan 28.—Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has accused the United States of trampling on normal international relations in its attitude to Poland and attempting to get the world used to the idea of some form of nuclear war, the East German news agency ADN said.

He was speaking at a dinner in East Berlin , where he is stopping for two days of talks with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German party leader. Mr Gromyko is on his way home from Geneva, where he saw Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State.

Mr Gromyko accused military circles in America of trying to accustom world public opinion to the possibility of a nuclear "first strike", "warning strike" or "demonstration strike".

He and Mr Honecker said in a joint statement that they *considered substantial* progress in American-Soviet arms talks in Geneva was both necessary and possible. Détente must be preserved and the arms race prevented.

☐ Bonn: — However controversial they may be abroad, the views of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, on the Polish crisis are supported by a substantial majority at home, according to a poll published today (Patricia Clough writes).

The poll, conducted by the weekly illustrated magazine, Stern, found that 63 per cent believed the Government was right in not joining in sanctions against the Soviet Union and Poland; only 21 per cent disagreed.

Herr Schmidt's argument that economic and political pressure will not get more freedom for the Poles is shared by 55 per cent, and the same number believe that greater pressure would endanger détente and even threaten world peace.

West Germans seem less sure that the Chancellor can maintain his line. Only 43 per cent thought his policy of restraint, if continued further, would not endanger West Germany's relations and influence with the United States and France, and 35 per cent said it would.

A large proportion — 66 per cent — opposed stopping the giant gas-pipeline deal with the Soviet Union.

New grain embargo considered

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Jan 28

President Reagan is considering the possibility of reimposing a grain embargo on the Soviet Union if the situation in Poland continues to deteriorate.

However, unlike the grain enbargo imposed by the Carter Administration in 1979 in protest over the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, he said a new curb on grain sales would be implemented only as part of an overall embargo against the Soviet Union.

The Pesident's remarks were made during an interview which was broadcast last night by CBS television news. He rejected a charge that he had so far refused to reimpose the grain embargo, which was lifted last year because of political pressure by the American farm lobby.

At the end of last year the *President* announced the postponement of talks on a new long-term grain agreement, *which is due to expire* in September, as part of a seven-point programme of sanctions against the Soviet Union.

At present, the Soviet Union is entitled to buy up to 23 million tons of American grain.

Mr Reagan told his interviewer: "I do not exempt the embargoing of grain *from* one of the things that can be done. But I have always insisted that it should be part of a general embargo, that we shouldn't pick out one sector of our society and say, well, you pay the penalty."

In the interview, the President reaffirmed that his Administration is determined to take further action against the Soviet Union unless three conditions are met in Poland — the lifting of martial law, the release of detainees and a resumption of dialogue between the Government, Solidarity and the Roman Catholic Church. However, he said he was not setting any deadlines.

The President praised the amount of unity which existed among the Western allies in their response to the Polish crisis. Noting that the allies had promised not to do anything to undercut the effect of American sanctions, he said: "*We have been more* united on this subject than we have on any crisis in the last 20 years."

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Jail plea in baby case

Munich. — The prosecutor has demanded a three-year sentence for a Munich doctor accused of the manslaughter of a new-born child. He also said that Dr Willi Appel, aged 47, a gynaecologist, should be barred from practising for life.

Herr Jürgen Hanreich was winding up the prosecution case on the fourth day of a trial which arose from the death of a baby girl after a Caesarean section performed by Dr Appel last April. Dr Appel admitted in court that he gave a lethal injection to the child. The baby had abnormally long limbs and a massively deformed head, he said. The verdict is expected today.

UN agrees to debate Golan

New York.—The United Nations Security Council voted to convene an emergency special session of the General assembly to debate the December 14 Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights.

WHO ends link over S Africa

Geneva.—In a move without precedent, the World Health Organization has broken ties with the largest international medical association to penalize it for admitting South African doctors.




Garland greeting: Lord Carrington welcomed by Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, Indonesia's Foreign Minister, at Jakarta airport at the start of a three-day visit.

Black bag admitted as coma trial evidence

From Our Correspondent, Newport, Rhode Island, Jan 28

A black wash bag and a hypodermic syringe with a residue of insulin are to be admitted as evidence in the trial of Mr Claus von Bulow, who is accused of trying to kill his wife.

Mr von Bulow, a Danish-born former London barrister, is charged with trying to kill his wife, Martha "Sunny" von Bulow, an heiress, with insulin injections in December, 1979, and December, 1980. She has been in an *irreversible insulin coma* for 14 months.

The defence contended that the bag and needle, discovered in a locked cupboard in Mr von Bulow's study by his stepson, Prince Alex von Auersperg, were obtained illegally without a search warrant.

Judge Thomas Needham ruled yesterday that the constitutional safeguards against an illegal search did not apply since the needle was taken in a private search.

The jury this morning toured the English Georgian mansion, Clarendon Court, where *Mrs von Bulow was* found lying on the white marble floor of her bathroom on December 21, 1980.

Reagan may act on Cuba

From Nicholas Ashford
Wahington, Jan 28

President Reagan has indicated that he may consider taking action against Cuba to counter Soviet arms shipmets to Havana.

The President refused to comment on persistent reports that Cuba has recently received advanced MiG23s capable of carrying nuclear weapons, but said Cuba was being sent more arms by the Soviet Union than at any time since the 1962 Cuban missile crisis.

He made his remarks during an interview with Mr Dan Rather on CBS news last night.

His comments underscore the growing concern being expressed by the Administration, not only about the Cuban arms build-up but also over the flow of weapons from Cuba to Nicaragua and to leftist groups elsewhere in Central America. However, some observers think the United States is planning to use Cuba for exerting pressure on the Soviet Union over Poland.

He refused to say what steps his Administration might be thinking of taking against Cuba. "I rule nothing out, nothing in," he declared. "I would think that Cuba, if it was smart, would take another look and see if it didn't want to rejoin the Western hemisphere."

Accusing Cuba of being "a stooge for the Soviet Union" Mr Reagan said that Mr Haig had raised the question of Soviet arms shipments to Cuba when he met Mr Andrei Gromyko this week.

Mitterrand combats split on Siberian gas deal

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan 28

The contract for the trebling from 1985 of Siberian gas deliveries to france continues to divide not only the Government majority also the opposition.

Once again, to restore some harmony to the discordant chorus of his own supporters, President Mitterrand had to step in yesterday and reply to those, such as M Edmond Maire Secretary General of the CFDT labour organization, who had accused the government of sacrificing the Poles to a Socialist conception of *realpolitik*.

M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, this evening attempted in the national assembly on the censure debate, to substitute more telling arguments for his lame explanation earlier this week that "it would serve no purpose to add to the Polish tragedy the additional tragedy, for Frenchmen, of not being supplied with gas".

M Mauroy said that "to refuse to sign the gas contract would have meant giving up the objectives of the Government's energy plan. It would have meant embarking on the logic of an economic blocade of a state of war".

The Government has received qualified support from an unexpected quarter. M Raymond Barre, under whose prime ministership the negotiation on Siberian gas began, declared yesterday that he approved the signature of the contract, although he had some reservations about its timing. "I refect the amalgam of politics and economics in which some people indulge", he said.

In reactions to the Polish crisis, hypocrisy had got the upper hand. "It is false to assert that our independence will be prejudiced (by the deal). The only other countries in the world able to provide us with gas are Algeria and Nigeria, high risk countries."

M Barre: Surprise ally.

This statment has provoked a violent Guallist counter-attack against him today.

The editor of *La Lettre de la Nation* said M Barre's comments marked his political demise. He congratulated him ironically on his "loyalty to choices which yesterday were economically wrong and today are politically unacceptable". He sympathizes with President Mitterrand: "One can reproach him with everything save a lack of political inteligence. If he still sat in the assembly, he would on Thursday vote the motion of censure against stupidity."

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Acquittals over camp site blast

Madrid, — A court in Tarragona acquitted four of the six men accused in connexion with the 1978 Los Alfaques camp site explosion in which 215 people were killed. Two others were given suspended sentences of one year each (Harry Debelius writes).

The court also ruled that the two convicted men, Alfredo Ortiz, manager of the plant where the tanker lorry, which later exploded at the camp site, was loaded beyond its capacity with propylene gas, and Francisco Molino, the plant's chief safety officer, must pay damages of £78,000. The court had found the two men guilty of reckless negligence.

The sentences were lighter than those demanded by the state prosecutor, who had asked the court to jail all six defendants for periods from one to six years. Investigations showed that the tanker lorry had no safety valve and that little attention was paid normally to the load capacity of vehicles at the Tarragona Petrochemical Plant.

Driver blamed for crash

Delhi.—The driver's error of judgment and the flouting of safety regulations were the main causes of the rail accident in Agra, northern India, that left 63 dead and 41 injured, Mr P. C. Sethi, the federal Railway Minister, said here,

Mr Sethi told a press conference there was evidence that the 54-year-old driver had disregarded signal regulations.

Reprieve on eve of execution

Monrovia. — Mr Samuel Doe, the Liberian head of state, has reprieved six student leaders on the eve of their execution by firing squad for high treason. He said they were free to go home and return to school.

The six had been sentenced for breaching a ban on political activities and Mr Doe said they must accept this as a last warning. "We cannot ignore the gallant role students played in our revolution."

Judge puts case to Privy Council



Wellington.—Mr Justice Peter Mahon (above), who conducted a royal commission of inquiry into the 1979 Air New Zealand disaster in Antarctica, said he would apply for the case to be heard by the Privy Council in London.

His report blamed the airline for an administrative error. The announcement came two day after the New Zealand Government accepted his resignation from the High Court and agreed to pay costs if the judge wanted to pursue the issue farther.

This year in Jerusalem

Strasbourg. — The political commission of the 21-nation Council of Europe upheld by 21 votes to eight a decision to hold its next meeting in Jerusalem on May 17, despite protests from Arab governments.

The objections arose after Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights. Israel holds observer status in the European Assembly and the commission meets annually in one of the member states.

Ghana order to 'party thugs'

Accra. — Ghana's military rulers have ordered all members of the country's former secret service and military intelligence and "all thugs and activists" of deposed President Hilla Limann's banned People's National Party to report to the authorities. Failure to do so would amount to "a declaration of war on the revolution."

Meanwhile, at hearings taking evidence of corruption, Mr Nana Okutwer Bekoe the former party chairman, described President Limann as unable to control his ministers, who were allowed to do "whatever they wanted."

Power cut off

Bucharest. — Electricity power cuts in Bucharest have begun in an attempt to conserve energy. Power was cut for four hours in various sections of the capital on a rotating basis.

Haig's envoy to help revive stalled dialogue

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv, Jan 28

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, indicated today that the Reagan Administration will soon be appointing its first special negotiator to handle continuing efforts to reach agreement between Israel and Egypt on the vexed issue of Palestinian autonomy.

Speaking at Tel Aviv airport after his second visit to Israel within two weeks, Mr Haig dropped a broad hint that the man to be put in charge of one of the most intractable diplomatic problems in the Middle East will be Mr Richard Fairbanks.

Questioned directly about the appointment, Mr Haig said: "It is true that Mr Fairbanks has accompanied me on the trip, and I would suggest that would indicate that his appointment to assist me in the autonomy effort is under serious consideration, but there has been no decision as of this moment. I would anticipate one in the very near future."

In diplomatic circles, the decision is seen as a clear sign that the American Government regards the process leading to a possible autonomy agreement as being long and drawn out. It is also taken as evidence that Mr Haig will be distancing himself from the negotiations again after his close personal involvement over the past fortnight.

Mr Fairbanks is not a well-known political name outside Washington, where he has a reputation as a loyal follower of Mr Haig. At present he is serving as a special assistant to the Secretary of State.

The sudden change of approach reflects growing concern in the State Department about the future of the whole Camp David process after April 26, the day when Israel must hand back the remainder of Sinai to Egypt.

The announcement of Mr Fairbanks's imminent appointment came at the end of a 24-hour visit to Israel during which the American delegation made little progress on the key issues which still divide the Israeli and Egyptian approaches to Palestinian self-rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Despite some public claims of optimism by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's Foreign Minster, Mr Haig made no attempt to disguise the seriousness of the problems still unsolved after two and a half years' of talking. He also confirmed speculation that the delegations are now only aiming for a declaration of principles rather than a detailed autonomy agreement which, it is now stated, would follow later.

☐ Cairo:Mr Haig, who arrived in Egypt today, acknowledged important differences between Egypt and Israel on the stalled Middle East peace talks. After a one-hour meeting with President Hosni Murbarak, he said a great deal more work was needed to reconcile the differences (Our Correspondent writes).

The two countries differ on the powers of an elected council that would govern the West Bank and Gaza, its size and the rights of Jerusalem Arabs, as well as on the fate of the city itself. The issues have deadlocked the talks for over two years.

Mr Haig is understood to be proposing a compromise solution. However, he pointed out during a press conference that he had not come with a "made-in-America plan," but rather with some proposals and suggestions.



Mikhail Suslov, the Soviet ideologist who died on Monday, lying in state in Moscow. Mr Brezhnev and other leaders paid their last respects yesterday.

Gun battle grounds hijackers

Cali, Colombia, Jan 28. — Colombian leftist guerrillas holding 66 people on board a hijacked airliner have offered to exchange their hostages for a new aircraft to fly them to Central America, military sources said today.

The Booeing 727 of the Colombian Aerotal airline which they seized yesterday during a short domestic flight was damaged by gunfire last night when troops tried to storm it. The guerrillas, six men and a woman, freed 62 of their 128 hostages last night, a presidency spokesman said today.

Earlier reports said 86 had been freed after the aircraft landed in this south-west Colombian city. The Government has rejected a demand for a new, fully-fuelled aircraft and mediation by Mgsr Juan Francisco Sarasty, Archbishop of Cali, and two local journalists.

The hijackers' leader, who calls himself Commander Three, told the local military commander they would release all the hostages in exchange for an aircraft to fly to an unspecified Central American country.

[A separate report said all but two of the hostages would be released. They would accompany the hijackers on a small private jet out of the country.]

Military sources quoted the captain as saying the hijackers leader had again threatened to blow up the aircraft when his demands for a new aircraft were rejected. The M19 guerrillas, armed with grenades and automatic weapons, hijacked the aircraft during a 20-minute flight from Bogota to the central city of Pereira.

After forcing the pilot to return to Bogota they threatened to blow up the aircraft if a government commissioner was not brought to the airport. They then ordered the pilot to fly the 300 miles to Cali after asking for a flight chart covering Central America.

As the aircraft appeared to be preparing to take off from Cali, troops rushed towards it, shredding the tyres with bullets and puncturing the fuel tank.

Other reports say the aircraft collided with an Army lorry driven into its path as it moved along the runway to take off. The driver of an airport bus that picked up the freed passengers claimed he heard shouts and explosions on board the aircraft.

The M-19 guerrilla group seized the Dominican Embassy in Bogota in February, 1980, and held several ambassadors and diplomats for two months. In December, 1980, the guerrillas hijacked a Boeing 727 belonging to Colombia's Avianca airline and were subsequently granted political exile in Cuba.— Reuter.

☐ The M-19 or April 19 movement, takes its name from the date that the late Gustavo Rojas, a dictator who ruled Colombia from 1953 to 1957, lost a presidential election in 1970. (AP reports). His followers, claiming he was cheated of victory through electoral fraud.

Operation Condor reaches for the sky

From Ivor Davis Ventura, California, Jan 28

One of the biggest and most expensive gambles in the history of America's endangered species programme has begun with an attempt to save the giant California condor from extinction.

A team of wildlife specialists will head into the foothills of this coastal town and set up elaborate traps to capture the ungainly condors in the first programme of its kind ever attempted.

There are now only between 20 and 30 condors, the largest North American land birds left. Scientists at the Condor Research Centre in Ventura feel the $1m (£520,000) survival programme offers the only hope of saving the birds.

However, Operation Condor does not have the blessings of all environmentalists. Critics say that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Audubon Society are going about the task in the wrong way by using high technology when simpler, less risky methods could save the condors.

The plan is to trap young birds for breeding and to take two of them and fit them with solar powered radio transmitters, the size of a man's pocket watch on their wings.

The trappers plan to spread a 50ft nylon net on the ground, camouflage it with leaves and place a carcass in the middle as bait. Lead weights attached to the net by cord will then be packed into miniature cannons. When fired the cannons will throw the weights and the net in an arc over a condor that has settled on the bait.

Besides breeding the birds in captivity, wildlife experts, thanks to the radio transmitters, hope to be able to tell scientists where the birds range.

Namibian talks make good progress

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Jan 28

Marked progress has been made recently in the talks on the independence of Namibia between the five-nation Western contact group and the various African parties concerned, according to American officials.

However, the front-line African states and the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) still have reservations about constitutional aspects of the Namibian independence plan.

Despite these which centre on the proposed voting arrangements for a constituent assembly in the disputed territory, American officials appear confident that full agreement will soon be reached on the first phase of the Western settlement plan. This phase deals with constitutional principles, including voting arrangements and a bill of rights.

Only when full agreement has been reached on phase one will the negotiating group — Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada — present their proposals for the second phase.

South Africa and the internally-based political organization, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance contend that the United Nations is biased in favour of Swapo. Mr R F Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, recently criticized Señor Javier Peréz de Duellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, for his "inability to act in a just and unbiased manner".

Despite this broadside and the failure to reach final agreement on the first phase, American officials appear more optimistic about an internationally-recognized settlement than have been since the Reagan Administration came to power.

Canadian Indians lose plea

By Our Foreign Staff

The British Governmment was not bound by treaties signed with Canadian Indians in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, the Court of Appeal in London ruled yesterday.

The Indian Association of Alberta had contested a ruling that obligations to them under the treaties and a Royal Proclamation of 1763 now rested with the Ottawa Government.

Lord Denning, the Master of the Rolls, said that promises given to the Indians over their land rights and other freedoms must be honoured "so Long as the sun rises and the river flows", but the obligations of the Crown in Canada resided with the Government there, not in the United Kingdom.

The Canada Bill, which would patriate constitution-making powers to Canada, did everything possible to protect the rights and freedoms of the aboriginal peoples. There was nothing to warrant distrust by the Indians of the Government of Canada.

Their rights and freedoms had been guaranteed to them by the Crown in Parliament, they should now be honoured by the Crown in Canada. It was not possible for the Indian people to bring an action in this country to enforce those obligations; they must be pursued in Canada.

The British Government agreed to delay the second reading of the Canada Bill while the appeal was heard. The ruling means it can now go ahead though it will face determined oppostion in Parliament from supporters of the Canadian Indians.

Mr Willie Littlechild, legal adviser in Canada to the Indian association, said an appeal to the House of Lords was among options being considered.

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PAKISTANIS HOPEFUL ON TREATY

From Our Correspondent Islamabad, Jan 28

India and Pakistan hold their most important talks since the Simla agreement 10 years ago tomorrow and on Saturday, with initial discussions of a non-aggression treaty proposed by Islamabad.

Mr Agha Shahi, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, who leads his delegation to the talks in Delhi with Mr Narasimah Rao, India's Foreign Minister, said here today. "No one should underestimate the difficulties that lie in the way of reaching an agreement of such fundamental character, given the controversy that has surrounded the idea in the past."

But despite, "continuing scepticism in some circles in India about our motives and intentions," he emphasized that the talks could be the start of "a whole new ball game transforming political security and the strategic situation in the region."

EEC price policy leaves milk issue unresolved

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 28

The European Commission has still to announce or even to work out many of the important details in its food price proposals for 1982-83.

Although increases averaging 9 per cent for most farm produce were announced yesterday, it is still far from clear what is being done to curb surplus production in the milk sector, or how to bring cereal prices more in line with world competitors.

From a British point of view the proposals seem a considerable step back on what was on offer during the discussions to reform the common agricultural policy, which collapsed at the start of the week.

The 9 per cent increase is above the "prudent" level that Britain had sought in order to restrain the cost of the agricultural policy. The unchanged 2.5 per cent levy for milk is obviously not going to prove a disincentive to dairy farmers. The 5.3 per cent increase in flour means that European prices are almost certain to remain significantly above American prices.

The commission does propose measures to control surpluses in the dairy and cereal sectors. These invlve the creation of thresholds for these projects, with penalty clauses to be applied next

product	proposed % increase	proposed price per tonne in £
Common Wheat	6.58	146.28
Breaded Wheat	5.3	121.74
Sugarbeet	9.0	23.20
Milk	9.0	156.70
Butter	9.0	2,045.38
Beef	6+3.0	1,110.97
	(from Dec)	(1,142.44)
Pork	9.0	1,138.15
Sheepmeat	9.0	2,395.94
Olive Oil	9.0	1,762.14
Sunflower Seed	12.0	316.96
Dried Fodder	12.0	98.29
Table Wine (Top grade)	9.0	45.20
Fruit and Veg	10.0	various
Silkworms	10.0	55.42 (per box)

Calculated according to the proposed new green rate of 0.59p per European Currency Unit

year if the thrsholds are passed.

Control of cereal production is more specifically spelled out. Next year's prices would drop by 1 per cent for every million tonnes more than 119.5 million tonnes produced this year.

In the more sensitive dairy sector. However, propsed controls are vague and contradictorry. Special aid of about £62m is suggested for small procedures, although the Commission has no clear proposal as to how to define a small producer.

Three different ideas for penalizing overproduction are suggested, all of them controversial, while the thresholds for prodiction is set at 0.5 per cent above this year's total — which is already about 20 per cent higher than the Community consumes.

In fairnesss to the Commission, it must be said that it found itself caught between the irresistible force of the strong farming lobbies in France, Italy and Ieland, and the immovable object of Britain's refusal to countenance higher sending on agriculture.

The proposed increase of 9 percent sould, according to farming organizations, fail to keep income up to the level of inflation, and this, after a three-year period when farm price increases have been held to a minimum the Community.

The price proposals, the Commission estimates, would put up the cost of food by 2.9 per cent, which means an extra 0.6 per cent on the cost of living index.

Britain is determined to oppose so large an increase, while France will be leading the claim by most of the other members for a substantially better offer.

Outlawing guns is a shot in the dark

From Christopher Thomas
Morton Grove, Illinois
Jan 28

The village of Morton Grove is a model of peace and stability a few miles from Chicago, a haven from one of the most violent cities in the world. It is expensive, beautiful and notorious.

For the six village trustees have done the unthinkable: they have voted to make it illegal for any of the 24,000 citizens to possess a handgun.

To everybody's astonishment, the immediate legal battle mounted by the powerful and persuasive pro-gun lobby in the United States resulted in a decisive victory for Morton Grove's unprecedented stand.

The question that hardly anybody used to ask is now widely discussed: Does the Second Amendment really give an absolute right to bear arms?

It all started a year ago when a local businessman decided to open a gun store in Morton Grove. He had a partner who, police discovered, had a criminal past. The local police chief, Mr Larry Shey, recommended to the trustees that planning permission be refused.

They agreed, but in the months that followed they discussed the prospects of a complete gun ban. After some heated argument they voted four to two in favour of banning not only the sale and purchase of hand guns, but also their possessions. They set the maximum penalties for infringement at six months' jail plus a $500 (£240) fine.

The National Rifle Association, which has two million fee-paying members and is by far the most influential pro-gun group in the country, swung into action, calling it the most dangerous attack ever staged against the right to keep and bear arms.

The NRA always cites the Second Amendment in justification of its case, but usually only selectively. The entire section reads: "a well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

The NRA asked an Illinois federal district judge to rule the Morton Grove decision unconstitutional, but Judge Bernard Decker took the view that the Second Amendment reserved the right to keep and bear arms only in the preservation of state militias.

By that decision the delightful village of Morton Grove achieved more than all the highly-financed and sophisticated gun control campaign mounted at federal level. The pro-gun lobby was caught unaware because it never counted on a rearguard action from a handful of part-time trustees in a gentle, middle-class village in Illinois.

Mr Donald Sneider, one of the village trustees who teaches at a school for mentally handicapped children in Chicago, is the chief champion of the Morton Grove gun ban. It is due to come into effect on Monday, but the NRA is confident of succeeding in last-minute legal attempts to force a delay.

Mr Sneider fully expects the legal battle to wind slowly all the way to the Supreme Court, which will cost tens of thousands of dollars. But, so far, money has not been a problem.

The ABC broadcasting network has already paid $17,000 to the village for the option of making a television film about the affair, plus another $60,000 if it is actually made. All the gun control groups are planning extensive financial aid.

The Morton Grove trustees acknowledge that at this stage the gun ban is more symbolic than anything else. Mr Sneider said: "We are not suddenly going to drag off hundreds of our citizens to jail because they own a handgun. But we have broken the spell. People are no longer so sure that gun bans are unconstitutional."

The breaking of the spell has already had an impact. Seven other communities near Chicago are considering a similar law and the city itself looks like prohibiting the issue of all new handguns.

100 days of Papandreou

Mr Papandreou: Change of the style but few results.

Greeks grow impatient for imaginative change

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Jan 28

In their first 100 days in power, the Greek Socialists have managed to allay few fears and to fulfil even fewer of the hopes their election victory had evoked. For all the spectacular change in style and faces, their overall performance showed that they were unprepared for the job, or had grossly underrated the problems.

Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, was evidently sensing this when he told journalists this week how touched he was by the readiness of the people to grant his Government a credit of time.

"After all, you must understand that for the first time young people with a creative passion and absolute dedication to the party's targets that the Greek people endorsed, have undertaken a very difficult task."

What seems to be making this task more difficult is a thorough change of personnel throughout the state machine. Spoils system or not, the purge betrays an almost irrational fear of sabotage from within and constitutes a terrible waste of talent and experience.

The Government's handling of foreign affars, however, won it almost universal approval by touching on the hypersensitive chord of national pride. At the same time it put the message across, particularly to the West, to stop taking the Greeks for granted.

Beyond establishing a bandy reputation for unpredictability abroad, the Government is tightening its hold at home be a combination of carrot and stick.

The fundamental question for Greece today is whether Mr Papandreou is treading softly because, after assuming power, he came face to face with some of the harsher realities of life, or if this is a ruse to keep the unconquered power centres and the burgeoisie happy until the Government asserts its ability to enforce its more revolutionary pledges.

There are two reasons for this soft approach. One is Greece's continuing dependence on the United States for arms to ward off the assumed threat of aggression from Turkey.

The second is that this year Mr Papandreou needs about £1,000m from Western banks to close the balance of payments gap. These banks tend to be allergic to the type of pristine socialism that the original party platform preached.

Mr Papandreou singled out 1982 as a year of serious difficulties and his second in command in the Government, Mr Apostolos Lazaris, the Minister of Coordination, recently put it this way: "The march to Socialism is like climbing a mountain peak. Never lose sight of the goal, but watch every step.

But the Greeks are an impatient lot and the first voices of disenchantment are audible. Critics claim that the imaginative and efficient impact of the first few weeks (which produced such welcome measures as the attempt to wipe out divisions from the civil war and the lowering of the voting age to 18) seems to be running out of steam.

More and more, they complain, the ministers seem to be drifting back to the old ruts of time-tested remedies that they themselves deplored while in opposition.

Portuguese Socialists back Eanes

From Richard Wigg
Lisbon, Jan 28

Portuguese democracy and the Pinto Balsemao government will have to continue to live with the semi-presidential system, the constitutional "balancing act" which emerged after the 1974 revolution.

The Socialists have decided not to back the government's project, thus saving President Antonio Eanes from the need to carry out his threat to resign if he is stripped of most of his powers under a reform of the constitution this spring. The Socialists' votes are essential for the two-thirds majority required for constitutional reforms.

Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist leader, told *The Times* today after a week-long heated debate inside his party: "We are partisans of a semi-presidential system. The article in the 1976 constitution should stay as it is and we in the Socialist Party have accepted that position."

He was referring to the article permitting Portugal's directly elected President the power to dismiss the Prime Minister, though he is the chief executive — a power exercised by President Eanes against Dr Soares personally four years ago.

"President Eanes had that power, it was not an illegitimate act, but a political error in my view", Dr Soares observed.

The socialists' decision means that the goal of an Italian-style figurehead presidency, set by Dr Francisco Sá Carneiro, the charismatic Social Democratic Prime Minister, who campaigned for it until his death in an aircraft crash during the 1980 presidential election, cannot be achieved.

Dr Soares in his interview made clear, however, that the Socialists would vote with the governing Democratic Alliance this spring to abolish the Council of the Revolution, the armed Services "watchdog", Originally set up to protect the 1976 constitution and accountable to no one.

The Socialists will also vote for the reform to ensure that the President nominates as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff whoever the government recommends. That was a second important objective set by Dr Sá Carneiro, to establish the principle of subordination of Portugal's armed forces to the civilian government in line with other Western democracies.

The Socialists' overriding consideration about the reforms evidently arises from fears that a head on collision with the President risked destablizing Portugal's still young democracy.

PROTEST AT BORDER CAMP ENDS

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, Jan 28

About 35 anti-nuclear demonstrators who camped out on land on the East-West German border, defying orders from both sides to leave, gave up today.

They had set up a makeshift camp on a 25-yard wide strip of land at Gorleben, 60 miles south of Hamburg, which is legally East German, but lies west of the border fortifications. West German border guards were legally unable to enter and East German guards, who brought about 50 men to the scene, were evidently reluctant to round them up.

A 36-year-old East German was seriously injured by self-firing devices as he fled to freedom across the fortifications to near Bad Bramstedt to the north.

Cyprus may soon turn to UN

From Our Own Correspondent, Athens, Jan 28

If the intercommunal negotiations in Cyprus fail to produce results by the end of March, the Cypriot Government will ask the United Nations to take more effective steps to settle the problem that has kept the northern part of the island under Turkish military occupation since 1974.

This was one of the main conclusions in the comprehensive talks between President Kyprianou of Cyprus and Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, in Athens over the last three days. Mr Kyprianou flew back home today.

Mr Nicos Rolandis, the Cypriot Foreign Minister, who was here for talks, significantly went to New York for consultations on suitable dates for reconvening the United Nations General Assembly to take up the Cyprus question.

Both Mr Kyprianou and Mr Papandreou say they are convinced that the present talks between Greek and Turkish Cypriots will be inconclusive, and even that the entire concept of the intercommunal dialogue since 1975 has proved ineffective. They agreed, however, to "exhaust all reasonable margins" before declaring it dead.

One option discussed in Athens was reactivating the mediation procedure recommended in the past by the General Assembly. Under this the President of the Assembly would appoint a committee of four representatives from non-aligned countries to assist the Secretary-General with the problem.

It is suggested that Cyprus could apply to the Security Council to determine the terms of reference for this procedure. Other options such as an international conference (proposed by the Soviet Union) or sanctions to force Turkey to withdraw its troops are discarded as unrealistic.

A further possibility is that the new Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, who, as a former United Nations special representative in Cyprus himself, has a personal interest in the issue, plans to bring President Kyprianou and Mr Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, together in Rome in April to try again under his guidance.

Mr Papandreou announced that his Socialist Government was launching a worldwide diplomatic campaign for Cyprus, and explained that Greece had added responsibilities because Cyprus was "part of the Hellenic nation", as well as because Greece was a guarantor power (along with Britain and Turkey).

This week, western criticism of the Turkish military regime has reached the point where Turkey may be forced to leave the Council of Europe. **Robin Laurance** interviews Kenan Evren, who believes his regime has been misunderstood.

Why democracy must wait

General Evren, true heir of Ataturk: "readoption of his principles will help social and economic principles".

Stubborn pride is central to the Turkish character: and no European leader more closely reflects the personality of his people than General Evren of Turkey. One man in particular is feeling the force of that truth today — former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit who is in prison for criticizing the general's regime.

Ecevit's imprisonment has met strong disapproval throughout Europe. Coupled with the General's closure of the country's political parties, it is likely to freeze much-needed aid to Turkey from European institutions as well as from individual states. Turkey is even likely to be expelled from the Council of Europe unless it withdraws of its own accord. But Evren and his colleagues are unflinching. They see it all as an interference in Turkey's internal affairs that they bitterly resent.

Evren is not only a man of stubborn pride. He is a Muslim who sees his life in the spirit of Ataturk, the founder of the modern secular Turkish state. His military coup 16 months ago rescued the country from daily terrorism and an economic shambles and was met with a national sigh of relief.

Today he is widely tipped to become the country's first president under a new constitution that is almost certain greatly to increase the presidency's power.

The General comes from a modest background. His father was an imam, a Muslim prayer leader, well-liked by the faithful who attended his small mosque in Alasehir, a market town 75 miles along the valley from the Aegean port of Izmir, or Smyrna as it was then.

The imam's son was a bright child, doing well at middle school and distinguishing himself by graduating to military high school. He then spent four years at the Ankara War College, gaining his commission as third lieutenant at the age of 20.

At first his modest nature — even diffident according to one contemporary — made him an unlikely candidate for the senior ranks. But after serving with the Turkish contingent in Korea, he became Chief of Army Operations. He became a general in 1964. During the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, 10 years later, he was Chief of Staff to the Land Forces commander, a job which he inherited himself three years after that. He was appointed Chief of the General Staff in March, 1978.

General Evren is a Muslim but not a devout one like his father. He pointedly breaks Ramadan, making public his support for Ataturk's secular ideals rather than for the dictates of Islam. He is married with three daughters. Slightly built, he has fast-receding white hair and steady dark brown eyes.

We talked in his office at General Staff Headquarters, a sombre grey stone block in the centre of Ankara.

The most dominant feature is a portrait of Ataturk which hangs on the wall behind the General's chair. Ataturk, the centenary of whose birth Turkey celebrated last year, has been the great inspiration in Evren's life. "He is the distinguished son of mankind", explains General Evren. "A man for whom the hearts of the nation burn with love and deep gratitude."

But was the General convinced that the nation supported Ataturk's principles and the westernization that went with them, and would not prefer some degree of Islamic influence restored?

"As Ataturk stated, we interpret westernization as 'setting our people on the road to becoming the most prosperous and civilized nation'. If that is the goal, the Muslim nature of the Turkish people is far from contrasting with westernization. In fact, the real nature of Islam is always open to science, civilization and development. This is understood by the majority of the Turkish people, 99 per cent of whom are Muslims."

It was in the name of Ataturk that the General seized control of the country 16 months ago, and his achievements since then have been considerable. Terrorism has been dramatically reduced. Inflation has been cut by more than half, and foreign earnings have increased substantially (if not quite as much as official figures suggest).

"Gathering and uniting the Turkish nation on the principles of Ataturk", the General said, "is the only guarantee of our country's security. I am satisfied that there have been no major failures in the activities we have carried out in the last 16 months".

No failures perhaps, but had there been any disappointments? "Well, we do find it difficult to comprehend the approach of some foreigners who seem either to be making no effort to understand us, or to have some ulterior motive in mind. Let me give you an example. Extremists who fled Turkey after the September 12 operation are able to live openly abroad. They run fallacious propaganda campaigns against Turkey which deceive even parliamentarians and which friendly governments do little to counter."

The General was furious when the Bonn Parliament's aid committee froze £100m worth of aid because the return to democracy in Turkey was not coming quickly enough. He was just as infuriated — if not altogether surprised — when his ambassador in London relayed the British Government's warning, in its role as current president of the EEC Council of Ministers, that the jail sentence imposed on Bulent Ecevit, who had violated a military decree banning former politicians from making public statements, could prevent approval for the next instalment of Community aid.

"Sometimes", General Evren said, "we do not know whose side our friends are on. I have been continuously expressing that Turkey will definitely return to a parliamentary democracy. This will be established not because our Western friends are asking for it but because it is considered the most suitable political system for the Turkish nation."

It was the "outside influence" that was much to blame for the state Turkey was in before the General took over. He admitted there were economic, social, psychological and administrative problems that had led to the unrest. "But these problems", he said, "were consciously exploited by mostly externally supported forces aiming to destroy the Turkish state."

A huge arsenal of arms and ammunition had been seized during the martial law period. There were tens of thousands of rifles, pistols, machine guns, grenades, anti-aircraft guns, rocket launchers and mortars, valued in all at about £120m. "The money", said General Evren, "had to come from somewhere."

While Evren clearly likes to emphasize the external element in Turkey's terrorism, there is evidence to support what he says. As far back as 1971 a KGB defector, Vladimir Sakharov, told the Americans that one of the main aspects of his work was to support a campaign of urban terrorism, including assassinations and kidnappings, in Turkey. More recently, young Turkish leftists are known to have attended pro-Soviet Palestinian training camps to learn terrorist techniques. And 11 foreign radio stations have been monitored broadcasting anti-Turkish propaganda.

The other external thorn in Turkey's side is Greece. Turkish-Greek relations improved after the Army took control in Ankara. But how did the General think relations would fare now that Mr Papandreou's Socialist Government had gained power in Athens? (The Greek Premier's foreign policy, recently approved by Parliament, pays considerable attention to a "Turkish threat to Greece's integrity and rights").

"It is really too early to say", General Evren replied. "Mr Papandreou made unrealistic statements concerning Turkey, both during the election campaign and during his first days in office. We hope that the new Greek Prime Minister will follow in time a more realistic and constructive policy. Turkey will continue her decisive attitude in protecting her national and international interests."

The 160-member Constituent Assembly, hand-picked to prepare the new constitution and new electoral laws, includes 33 lawyers, 29 engineers, 21 retired officers, 19 academics, 16 civil servants, nine economists, an actor, the former head of the Turkish Secret Service and a heart surgeon who had worked with Dr Christiaan Barnard. It has been criticized for being right-wing.

Did the General believe it fairly represented the Turkish people as a whole? "If you consider the duties of the Assembly", he said, "the question of whether or not the Assembly was elected by the people is not that important. Its purpose is to prepare basic laws for the construction of the new Turkish democracy. Its members were selected from all layers of society. It was created to adopt the Ataturk style of thought rather than to represent a spectrum of thoughts and views from the radical left to the radical right."

The generals have also made sure that the thoughts and views printed in the press are the ones they want to read. Papers have been shut down, journalists jailed and others censured for critical comment. A purge of the state radio and television service resulted in a number of staff being transferred to backwater civil service jobs that had nothing to do with broadcasting.

Was all this because the generals believed that a free press sometimes did more harm than good? "Limitations that martial law impose on individuals and institutions also involve the mass media", said General Evren. "It must be appreciated that dissemination of unfruitful squabbles through the press will impede national unity during this difficult period."

Of all the steps taken by the generals, the one to attract the most criticism so far has been the closing of the political parties in October last year. Corruption had been rife in the last Parliament. Evren had accused MPs of inertia, silence, indifference and indulging in personal feuds. The politicizing was still going on. They were already trying to do deals with members of the new Constituent Assembly. "We had to make sure", the General said, "that our return to democracy was not hampered by the self-serving bickering and deal-making of the old parties".

Looking to the future, he sees Turkey adopting a less insular stance, guided, inevitably enough, by the spirit of the man that has held Turkey together for so long. "Nations are gradually depending more and more on each other, and are becoming complementary regarding economic, financial and trade cooperation. We will need to evaluate the economic and social developments in Turkey in the light of world economic conditions.

"Our basic purpose is to secure peace in Turkey and peace in the world. Readoption of Ataturk's principles, and their application, will undoubtedly greatly help our social and economic progress."

Evren, the soldier, knows he is right. Soldiers usually do. Evren, the Turk, is proud and his pride too, like that of the nation, is easily hurt. He is no longer diffident as a colleague had once described him. There is even a hint of vanity — pleasure in the enthusiastic welcomes he still gets as he tours the country. And there is in him, as there is in Turkey, an identity crisis. No one doubts for a moment that he is his own man. But there is Evren the fledgling statesman — once giving considered orders, now taking consensus views.

Turkey's road to military dictatorship

1923 Turkey becomes a republic: Ataturk elected president

1924 Caliphate abolished

1939 Second World War — Turkey remains neutral

1950 *First multi-party Assembly convenes*

1952 Turkey and Greece become full members of NATO

1960 Military coup — Prime Minister Menderes arrested

1961 Menderes executed

1966 Bulent Ecevit becomes secretary-general of Republican Peoples Party



Ecevit (left) and Demirel: democracy came unstuck

1971 Military forces Demirel government to resign

1973 Martial law ends after 29 months

1974 Ecevit government gives green light for Cyprus invasion





1977 37 die in May Day rioting (above)

1978 Kenan Evren becomes Chief of Staff

1980 More than 2,000 die in terrorist incidents. General Evren leads military coup

1981 Order restored. Civil rights curtailed. *Political parties* abolished. Former Premier Bulent Ecevit jailed

Television

Fence and offence

The cost of keeping one child behind the 18ft wire fence at Glenthorne Youth Treatment Centre in Birmingham is £32,000 a year and, with the best will in the world, it was hard to see, from Peter Gordon's film for Forty Minutes (BBC2), how on earth it had been set up in the first place, or was likely to have much future in the age of the short sharp shock.

Glenthorne is not (whatever *Radio Times* says) a prison, since it operates outside the penal system and takes both those under the age of 18 who have proved merely impossible to control elsewhere and child criminals convicted of arson, murder, robbery and rape. The methods of selection were admitted as quite arbitrary since Glenthorne employs two staff to each inmate and could never take more than 30 children at one time — but the aims at least were clear.

They are reform and rehabilitation by close personal contact and a delicate system of "contracts", penalties and rewards. Those living within the security unit are locked in their rooms at night, those outside it are helped to find work while continuing to live at the centre. It is working? After less than four years it was too soon to say. Much kindness and pragmatic intelligence was seen in action, but the fight at the disco dance must have alarmed everyone, and the tones of professional frustration raised their weary head, despite the presence of the cameras, at least once.

Wildlife on One (BBC 1) offered baboons, always good value, here first seen tweaking the windscreen wipers of those who ignored the rules of the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve and maddened them with junk food. Baboons with the nerve actually to attack humans are of course shot without question and the colony has now shrunk from 80 to seven. Meanwhile, back in the *maquis* above the blue sea down the coast (how glorious it looks), Glenda, Carter, Harriet and Sam continued to live off acacia pods, lily corms and ice plants, as they have always done.

Glenda sustained her position as first lady despite an admired pregnancy by Harriet, and Sam fought off a sneaky challenge from Carter and a more substantial one from Nick. Not even the blandness of a mid-evening script ("Thirsts quenched, high noon brings siesta time", etc.) could dim the energy of the subject, of the ancient Egyptian beauty of a baboon sitting bolt upright and absolutely still on the skyline looking down its long, dark nose.

Michael Ratcliffe

Cinema

Tasmanian magic and mystery

Manganinnie (U)/A Personal History of the Australian Surf (A)

Paris Pullman

Ghost Story (AA)

Ritz

It Hurts Only When I Laugh (AA)

Columbia

Ticket to Heaven (AA)

Classic, Haymarket; Odeon, Kensington

Until now, Tasmania's chief gift to the cinema was Errol Flynn. But with **Manganinnie** — part of an Australian double bill at the Paris Pullman cinema — the situation has changed. At least three key personnel — the director (John Honey), composer (Peter Sculthorpe) and author of the original novel (Beth Roberts) — are all Tasmanian-born. The extraordinary landscapes which dominate the film are also the genuine article: dense woods and fierce crags, thunderous waterfalls and majestic coastlines.

Australian films of the past ten years have set great store by visual prettiness, often to the detriment of their narratives. But the Tasmanian landscape is inseparable from the story *Manganinnie* tells: the adventures of a young child of white settlers, Joanna, who drifts from a family picnic in the 1830s into the loving care of an Aboriginal woman, lone survivor of a tribe massacred by soldiers. The Aboriginal, Manganinnie, forlornly searches for signs of her people. Joanna accompanies, learns tribal customs and "the secret of things that burn", and is finaly returned to hearth and home — her eyes opened to an alien but magical lifestyle.

The great strength of *Manganinnie* lies in its refusal to fritter away the magic and mystery Joanna discovers. John Honey (a director with much television experience) rarely succumbs to luscious, snapshot imagery, preferring to train his camera on the strange couple of Aboriginal foster mother and white child, clambering over the terrain. Dialogue is at a minimum, but this only enhances the eloquence of the lead performances. Young Anna Ralph, for instance, never acts as such; she only acts her age — a child of seven, pottering about a *brave new world*, the emotions of fear and delight flashing across her face. There is a similar natural dignity about the Manganinnie of Mawuyul Yathalawuy (a pre-school teacher at Darwin's Aboriginal reserve), who rears her charge with tribal language, song and laughter, quick gestures and darting eyes.

To be sure, this entrancing film has faults. The periodic narration by a grown-up Joanna fits uneasily into the structure. More details would be welcome about the means of survival in the bush (there are a dog and a pet wombat to feed, apart





Growing up in Australia: the young Michael Blakemore and friend in "A Personal History" (top); and Joanna in "Managaninnie" chances upon an aboriginal skull.

from two humans). But faults pale beside the achievement of *Manganinnie*: a moving story of trust and love between two people of different civilizations; a first film of modest ambition, completely and confidently fulfilled.

The supporting film is another first venture, **A Personal History of the Australian Surf**, written and directed by the theatre director Michael Blakemore, long resident in England. By all the rules this should have been a narcissistic disaster, a home movie spun out of control: not content with guiding us through his upbringing in person, Blakemore also plays his own father, admonishing and advising his younger self in tiny re-enacted scenes. But the end result defies expectations. It is wonderfully terse and witty, bouncing with ironic reflections on adolescent dreams and the country that nurtured and hindered them.

Blakemore's father tried to make young Michael in his own image — a respected physician, a golf club member. Blakemore's schools tried to make him a super-athlete. Blakemore himself was interested in magic shows, the movies — frivolous entertainments that did not build muscles. Surfing proved to be the only common denominator — "a whole youth movement and transport system rolled into one", as a contemporary newsreel commentator inimitably describes it. But even life on Bondi Beach fails to hold Blakemore to Australia; after spasmodically studying medicine at Sydney University he sails away and starts a new career at RADA.

Blakemore's work at the National Theatre and elsewhere has included some extremely nimble comedies (*The Front Page, Privates on Parade, Make and Break*), and he transfers all his fast footwork to the new medium of cinema. Commentary, newsreels, photographs, the past and present — all are dovetailed with impish speed. The re-enacted, often wordless, scenes are also cleverly judged, with owlish stares from Blakemore senior, uncertain shuffling from his offspring. But the overall tone is dictated by the director's commentary: crisp, tongue-in-cheek, constantly savouring the absurdities of his past, like the magic show programme describing his own act as a "a garland of wonders from the fingers of Mike". *A Personal History*, one might say, is a further garland.

Blakemore's film runs for 52 minutes; it takes almost as long for John Irvin's Hollywood production **Ghost Story** to settle down and give its audience a story worth telling. Instead, we have a kaleidoscope of disturbing events, echoing the teasing mosaic of Irvin's television success *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*. Veteran actors like Fred Astaire and the late Melvyn Douglas have nightmares in bed; there are sudden falls from tall buildings and bridges, shots of a rotting corpse. Had the script (from Peter Straub's novel) pursued a chronological line, the story's point would certainly be blunted, but Irvin is still treating his audience in a high-handed way. We need to be hooked, and there is not enough bait. Nevertheless, *Ghost Story* does have its pleasures. The cast also includes Douglas Fairbanks Junior, beaming down from the big screen for the first time since *Mr Drake's Duck* in 1951; the photography of Jack Cardiff — another veteran — is atmospheric and chilly. The ghost is potent too; if only its story corresponded.

Neil Simon's **It Hurts Only When I Laugh** presents audiences with the reverse problem: a story tied down by conventions. But at least the conventions are the author's own. This is a typical, average product of the Neil Simon factory, assembled from spare parts of a 1970 play, *The Gingerbread Lady*. The trademarks are clearly visible: wisecracks and tears; an over-optimistic running time (two hours); an autobiographical element, boosted by the presence of Simon's wife Marsha Mason. But fidelity to Neil Simon is no substitute for fidelity to life; even the film's theatrical milieu is limply observed (Mason plays an actress coming back to Broadway and her discarded daughter after a long session with the bottle). Luckily the lively perfomances provide some compensation.

Ticket to Heaven also benefits from its acting, especially the perfromance of Nick Mancuso, who bears the haunted look of early John Cassavetes. As the story proceeds Mancuso grows more and more haunted, trapped in the Young Pioneers Community Centre — a bland title for a religious cult which enriches the coffers of a remote messiah and businessman. Given the amount of publicity accorded such cults, it was inevitable that a film would soon emerge dramatizing the fearful effects of indoctrination. At least this Canadian production, directed by R. L. Thomas, leaves scope for future film-makers: its narrative lurches about, and the phenomenon is explored with a heavy hand. The distributor, charmingly, is Miracle Films.

Geoff Brown

Theatre

An unforgiving past

Summer

Cottesloe

In this quiet, uneventful piece, chronicling a holiday reunion in an East European seaside resort, Edward Bond sets out to examine the unforgiving hold of the past over the present and the atrocities that co-exist with ordinary human kindness.

Xenia returns from England to the house where she grew up during the war, and which is now occupied by the family's former servant Marthe. The reunion is affectionate; and the only tension comes from their children, Ann and David, on whether to resume their affair of the previous year. This issue is swept aside by the news that Marthe is dying of cancer. And Bond first shows his claws in a magnificent speech in which David (a doctor) anatomizes the incurable nature of the disease in merciless technical detail with the double purpose of halting Xenia's meddling intrusions and reconciling his mother to her death.

The jaws of the past then begin to engage, with Marthe's recollections of the German occupation when she, together with a crowd of other women, was rounded up for execution, and escaped through Xenia's intervention.

But you would be wrong in supposing that this leaves her *with* any gratitude towards any member of the family that once "owned half the town." The family, she says, were sometimes hated: they were "also loved and respected, which was worse."

The scene then shifts to an outlying island where Xenia (whose father was destroyed by the Nazis) falls into frosty coversation with a German tourist: an amiable middle-aged man with big eyes for her lunch basket, who turns out to have been in the army of occupation. Their conversation, moreover, takes place in front of the execution rock.

If that sounds too neat to be true, Bond turns it to wonderful effect by allowing this polite refrigerator salesman, pitifully obsessed by the need to get back to the hotel by dinner time, to expand on the horrors of the past, attaining a level of nightmare poetry in the memory of floating execution victims, blocking the harbour and refusing to sink. Here, if anywhere, *Summer* imaginatively vindicates Marthe's key statement that "you can live without kindness, you can't live without justice".

With the return to the house, this statement takes on another form in a nocturnal encounter between the former mistress and servant, reaching its climax when Marthe, acting on behalf of the women she left to die, spits in her rescuer's face. As staged in Bond's production, this moment misfires. You are more worried about Marthe's present health than the revenge of the dead; and it also exposes the way in which sympathies have been rigged.

Donald Cooper

Yvonne Bryceland: stoic dignity

Like Bond's fables, *Summer* is presented as a cool objective work, explaining the sad facts of the world as if to a group of children. I like that approach if it is honest, and Bond does play fair so far as Xenia is concerned. Anna Massey gives her a mosquito-like attack, every inch the haughty boutique proprietor, but there is no suggestion of her individual guilt.

But on Marthe he showers all the blessings he can devise; peasant origin, non-collaboration, and, above all, impending death from which she takes the authority to make self-righteously authorial pronouncements on history, and freeze the company, when laying for breakfast, with lines like "Make the table beautiful. I won't see many more beautiful things." Yvonne Bryceland gives her stoic dignity, which is all you have a right to expect.

Hayden Griffin's hinged set locates the production in its proper zone, suspended between history and fable; and David Yelland and Eleanor David complete the play as blank-faced Bond innocents who may do better than their elders. What I shall most remember of *Summer* is David Ryall as the German, plaintively scanning the sea for his children and saying how terrible it would be to go home alone.

Irving Wardle

Shriek!

Churchill, Bromley

What I saw in Bromley on Wednesday was a preview of a thriller by Ian Blair. What anyone sees for the rest of the run at the Churchill Theatre is also very likely a preview — of what will probably be seen at a later date in the West End. Thrillers almost always make the trip, and there is the added attraction of Lynsey de Paul, more normally a singer and songwriter, appearing briefly in her first dramatic role.

There are indications that the play was never intended for the stage at all. With Gemma Jackson's starkly functional designs — ingeniously flexible concrete walls that might have been borrowed from the National Theatre — the moves from a murder in what appears to be an underground car park are neatly made to a policeman's house, to a club used by whores and pimps, a police station, recording studios and to a drug dealer's flat. Only a duck pond in a park refuses to fit into her scheme, but the trail of murders and investigations suggests that film was the father to the play.

Mr Blair lays an elaborate trail of deception, giving motives to all the men, since the murders are all the Ripper sort, and Miss de Paul is chiefly required to sing, impressively, a song of her own composition and pose as the mistress of the policeman investigating the murders. That part is Maurice Colbourne's, imposingly played.

Phillip Partridge's production has pace and menace, but there is a problem. Mr Blair, refreshingly, seems to know nothing of criminal or police procedures. Gratuitous police bullying, impoverished drug dealers and snappy banter are his version of the colourful crime of Croydon. His innocence speaks well of his private life, but simplifies his twisting story.

He is lucky that Mr Partridge is so swift to move the actors in what is a fairly elaborate shell-game. The confusions work because the police rarely do what the law requires.

Ned Chaillet

Interview: Adam Pollock

Mozart's music in a bright new frame

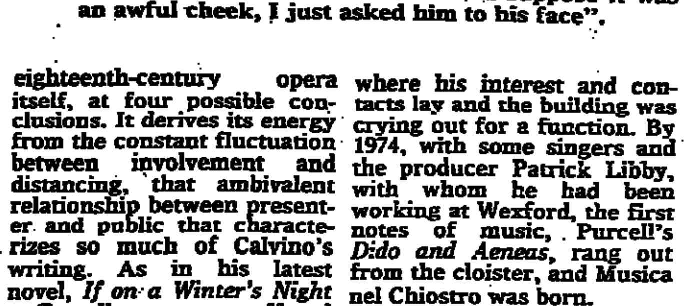
Next Wednesday at the Old Vic, Musica nel Chiostro will present the theatrical challenge to beat all challenges. They will stage, for the first time in Britain, an opera with neither a beginning nor an end and with only a tantalizingly vague middle. All that remains of Mozart's abandoned singspiel *Zaide* is 15 exquisitely scored musical numbers: the spoken dialogue either is lost or never existed, and the connecting plot and dénouement are anyone's guess. In this case, though, that anyone happens to be one of Italy's greatest living writers, Italo Calvino.

Previous realizations of the work have patched it up with dialogue based on the story of Mozart's later opera *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* to which *Zaide* has superficial resemblances, and filled it out with extraneous pieces of music. But this was not good enough for Adam Pollock, founder and designer of Musica nel Chiostro and guiding spirit behind *Zaide*. Convinced that the nature of the work was significantly different from *Die Entführung* and that the music must be staged in its own right, he felt his way towards the idea of a narrator, and commissioned Italo Calvino to construct a story into which Mozart's music would convincingly fit.

The result is a new text, unfolded by a narrator, acted out by the singers and arriving, by way of a good deal of witty comment on



Adam Pollock (left) and Italo Calvino: "I suppose it was an awful cheek, I just asked him to his face".



eighteenth-century opera itself, at four possible conclusions. It derives its energy from the constant fluctuation between involvement and distancing, that ambivalent relationship between presenter and public that charactérizes so much of Calvino's writing. As in his latest novel, *If on a Winter's Night a Traveller*, we are offered alternative narrative threads: just as we become involved with the emotions of a character in an aria, the prism turns and the narrator is offering another hypothesis, teasing our sensibilities, shifting the horizon. Colours, scents and bright images pass as rapidly as in Marco Polo's travellers' tales in *Invisible Cities*, mirages of the Orient hover and fade.

"A new Mozart opera with a Calvino text — it's just like having God write something for you!" Adam Pollock can still hardly believe his luck. When he escaped to Italy from the claustrophobia of a successful interior and stage design career at the end of the Sixties, and acquired a ruined monastery in Tuscany, even the thoughts of forming an opera company were far away. But opera was where his interest and contacts lay and the building was crying out for a function. By 1974, with some singers and the producer Patrick Libby, with whom he had been working at Wexford, the first notes of music, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, rang out from the cloister, and Musica nel Chiostro was born.

English performers gave their services free in return for board and lodging and the chance to sing in Italian to Italians, and gradually, through tenacity, overdrafts, then funds from the nearby city of Grosseto and the region of Tuscany, an annual festival of neglected seventeenth and eighteenth-century opera evolved. Now, with works like *L'Ormindo, Tamerlano* and *Orontea* behind them, two operas are performed at Batignano each year, toured round Italy and selectively performed in London.

As the close-knit company shifts and evolves, so does the widening and increasingly loyal audience. That is where Calvino comes in. "He'd been coming and supporting us since 1976 and I thought he'd be the ideal person to solve the *Zaide* problem. He knows a lot about the eighteenth century and is a storyteller with a delicacy and wit that I thought would make something marvellous. I suppose it was an awful cheek, but I just asked him to his face. After a year of waiting, plying him with records, throwing out ideas, as if by a miracle it happened. Just as he was moving from Paris to Rome he turned up and said 'Is this the sort of thing that would do?' We made a few modifications in the placing of the musical numbers, but the work is entirely his vision".

In Batignano, where the work was premièred last summer, the set was, doubly appropriately, a building in the phases of reconstruction; at Venice, where it plays in the Palazzo Grassi on February 20, 22, and 23, the stage is a platform such as is used at high tide. At the Old Vic, Pollock's setting is inspired by a Christies auction he once went to there: the trunk, full of wigs and manuscripts, which opens the work, is the object of value.

But Musica nel Chiostro is, first and last, music in the cloister. Pollock wants nothing the company does in England to affect the spirit of the place where it all began. He plans to continue the seventeenth and eighteenth-century repertoire which so well suits the small space and forces at Batignano, but looks forward to more twentieth-century works as well. A double bill of Britten's *Rape of Lucretia* and Cavalli's *Mutio Scevola* is on the cards for next year, and Pollock would like to hire Stephen Oliver whose *The Garden* they performed in 1977 for another idea he has up his sleeve. "I find the Beauty and the Beast tale a fascinating one . . . her house and the Beast's palace as the same building seen in a slightly different way . . . ." The projected librettist remains anonymous, but Adam Pollock looks rather pleased with himself.

Hilary Finch



Concerts

ECO/Bedford

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Sir William Walton will be 80 a month today. No doubt we shall hear all his big works during this year. On Wednesday the English Chamber Orchestra paid homage to his chamber orchestral music, which does include one early masterpiece, the original *Facade* with two speakers and instrumental sextet. That occupied the second half, and it was prefaced by two other works which commemorate later landmarks in his career.

Walton's film music deserves re-exploration this year, the wartime propaganda films and the pre-war films (please let us have revivals of *Escape Me Never* and *As You Like It*, both with lustrous Elisabeth Bergner), as well as the Shakespeare trilogy with Lord Olivier, here represented by two short extracts from *Henry V*.

The Sonata for string orchestra may not have much now to tell musical youngsters. It is full of reminiscences of good music that Walton had written before the war, and they sound more purposeful, I think more immediately personal, in the music's original shape as his A minor String Quartet, a work which Harry Blech introduced, with powerful effect, in 1974.

The slow movement, in particular, seemed to tap a new vein in Walton's vision: it did not in this account of the later transcription for string orchestra, because the acumen of the original is dissipated by pluralization. The execution, under Steuart Bedford, was both alert and handsome, but one of our many superb young string quartets must revive Walton's *second string quartet*.

Facade is all brilliance, and entertainment. This rendition had Cathy Berberian and Gabriel Woolf as speakers. They offered us amusing inflexions and accents. They did not attempt the exact note-values and note-lengths, which are the *raison d'être* of the work.

The speech was slovenly, from a musical point of view, and that from reputable, admired performers. I felt ashamed, as must anybody whose trade involves words and music equally, and discomfited by the woolly amplification. The instrumental ensemble gave much pleasure, pointing allusions ignored by the reciters. The Walton celebration has yet to take place.

William Mann

Souzay/Bowman

Wigmore Hall

Less than half an hour before his recital was due to begin, Gérard Souzay was still undecided whether or not to go on. His voice betrayed hardly a trace of any virus infection; but the nervous strain of such prolonged indecision showed throughout the first half, dulling the voice's lustre, sapping its movement. It emphasized, too, those qualities peculiar to Souzay which can be distracting at the best of times: a sense of sucking the breath and the words through the teeth, a blurring of diction and intonation. Chausson came off best, with Souzay capturing the trance-like sensibility of "Nos souvenirs" and and filling out the sails of "Sérénade Italienne" with warmly sustained breath.

Audiences who come to hear elder statesmen do so, of course, as much to seek interpretative wisdom, and are often more than willing to take the vocal reputation and intention for the deed. Their warm goodwill, to say nothing of Robin Bowman's discreetly supportive, infinitely imaginative accompaniments, had a telling effect after the interval.

Visibly happier and vocally liberated, Souzay sprang into Chabrier's "L'île heureuse" with a seductive and supple energy. Focusing into a dense darkness what had been earlier only quavering shadows in his voice, his building and sustaining of an almost hypnotic tension in Debussy's "Recueillement" made this, with his three Tchaikovsky songs, each one sung with absorbing conviction, the most memorable music of the evening.

Hilary Finch

When the Red Brigades' terror was at its height the body of the former Prime Minister Aldo Moro was found in a parked car in Rome in 1978. His murder caused deep political repercussions throughout Italy.

Are the Red Brigades cracking at last?

Rome
This winter of recession and unemployment was seen to provide Italian terrorists with their great opportunity. Instead there is some justification in now supposing that *it may mark the long-awaited turn* for the worst in terrorist fortunes.

Many of the known terrorist leaders are in prison. The freeing yesterday of General James L Dozier, with the capture of *five* terrorists, was a dramatic blow to the militant wing of the Red Brigades, the far left guerrilla movement. It follows the arrest early this month of representatives of the opposing wing within the movement which was no less violent but was more political in its approach to the way *kidnappings* and murders should be exploited.

In particular, the arrest in Rome on January 7 of Giovanni Senzani decapitated a terrorist column already strong and active which was making a bid for leadership of the main terrorist forces in Italy. Many of what are known as the "historic chiefs" of terrorism, including Renato Curcio, recognized as one of the founders of the Red Brigades, had been arrested or rearrested after escaping from prison.

In April, Mario Moretti, the ablest of the activists, whose exploits were coming dangerously *near* to the legendary in public opinion because of his apparent ability to keep at least a step ahead of the authorities, fell into a police trap in Milan. Then, with Senzani caught asleep in his bed in a Rome apartment full of weapons and plans for future attacks, the beast of terrorism suffered another in a series of multiple wounds.

A sinister growth which has developed over a full decade will not easily be destroyed. The Red Brigades movement, which became the most powerful of all, came on to the scene in August 1970 less than a year after Italy had its first experience of political terrorism. Its beginning is normally dated to December 12, 1969, when terrorists *still* officially unknown placed a bomb in a Milan bank which killed 16 people and injured about 100.

The Milan bank bombing is still technically under investigation. Public opinion normally sees it as a crime committed by the extreme right and not the extreme left and the same was felt about the bombing of the "Italicus" express train in August 1974 and the tragic explosion at Bologna railway station in August 1980.

There is seen to be an essential difference between the terrorism of the extreme left and those of the extreme right. *The former* do not *favour* the latter's method of spectacular and indiscriminate massacre such as marked the Milan and Bologna bombings. In their decade of public activity, the Red Brigades and other *groups aligning themselves* on the left have grown increasingly violent but even now show some discrimination. In April, 1974, they carried out their first political kidnapping. They held a judge, Dr Mario Sossi, for 35 days and subjected him to "trial" but then released him.

Two months later they opened their own path of bloodshed by killing two neo-fascists in Padua, the city where General Dozier was liberated yesterday. They *claimed that those killings in* June 1974 were not part of their original plan. But there was no doubt left after the shooting in 1976 of the Genoa public prosecutor, Francesco Cocco, that violence had become a part of their method for throwing existing society off balance.

Genoa had also been the scene of Dr Sossi's kidnapping and, with Turin and Milan, was one of the early centres of Left-wing terrorism. A police action there against a Red Brigades base *resulted in the killing of a* girl — allegedly a terrorist — called Anna Maria Ludmann. She originally came from Trieste. Her name was adopted by the Red Brigades column active in the Veneto area, which later played a leading part in General Dozier's kidnapping.

The most spectacular terrorist action and the only one that can be said to have substantially changed the internal political scene, was the kidnapping of Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat leader and former prime minister, whose name was associated with efforts at reaching an agreement between the governing Christian Democrats and the Communists. He was seized on March 16, 1978, after his bodyguard of five men had been killed. He himself was murdered on May 9 in the centre of old Rome.

If the terrorists have been unable to match that operation since, the chronology of terrorist violence continued regularly to blacken Italian lives. Early last year the terrorists looked nearly invincible when they kidnapped and held hostage four persons simultaneously, two of whom *they killed*, while two were released, including a Christian Democrat politician from the Naples area who *was* widely said to have been ransomed.

The Dozier kidnapping was *the* first *in which* the victim was a non-Italian and in this sense was seen to be opening a new phase. In fact, what came about looked more like *a misreading of the signs*.

Slowly, something new had emerged. The atmoshpere is different. Public opinion has gradually shown more confidence in the past few weeks, and in particular since General Dozier's release, that the time may at last have finished when the terrorists set the pace

This is not the first time that hopes have been raised and no one can expect that a sinister growth which has had a decade in which to develop can lightly be removed. Moreover, the terrorists still had ambitious plans to judge by the reported contents of documents found in Senzani's flat. There was to be an assault on a maximum security prison, more kidnappings for political or financial benefit and — most dramatic of all — a massacre of Christian Democrat *leaders at the party's* national council held last week.

There are also specific examples to illustrate public feeling. On January 11 a trade unionist won a standing ovation from the Alfa Romeo workers assembly when he referred to terrorists as "those damned bastards". The unions *have always* opposed terrorism. But this was an outstanding expression of anti-terrorism.

The Communist party has likewise retained a firm approach, refusing any form of negotiation with terrorism. When two terrorists were caught near Tuscania last weekend they would have been lynched by the crowds if the carabineri had not rushed them away. The results of the rounding up of the group to which those two belonged was the discovery of five more secret bases in Rome and Naples.

Another factor in this change was more essentially Italian; fom some weeks it *has become* clear that the Red Brigades themselves have been afflicted by faction. The old idea of the tightly organized relentless little monolith no longer stood. For instance, Senzani is seen to have had a different outlook from Moretti and from the militants of the Anna Maria Ludmann column. All of them, of course, believe in violence to reach their professed ends but personal ambition is also obvious in Senzani's case and ideological differences must arise from the various approaches taken by different columns and by individuals within a particular column.

This is a long way from the organization devised a decade ago by Curcio and the other "historic chiefs". They devised a hybrid derived from the *experience* of the resistance movement and the Latin American Tupamaros. The basis was the noncommunicating paired cell; above these cells was a cell commander and then came a brigade commander. The next line of organization was a column command consisting of four men, then up to the main strategic command and the samll group of policy-makers. *Each* level was sealed from the next so that the capture of a man or woman at one level would not necessarily lead the investigators to other operatives below or above the person captured.

This system would clearly be seriously undermined by faction because there would then *be a natural effort* on the part of individual terrorists to find affinities outside the framework.

At the same time, the process of erosion was aided by a number of arrested terrorists who offered to give evidence in return for the hope of a lighter sentence. A government Bill is due to be approved shortly by parliament giving the legal basis for the treatment of what are called "repentant terrorists".

Individual contributions from varying levels within the terrorists movement lowed investigators to build up a gradual and sometimes fragmentary picture of the whole apparatus. The terrorists themselves showed how much they feared the confessios of their arrested comrades. One of their most horrifying recent murders was that of a young man, Roberto Peci, the brother of the best known of the captured terrorists who "repented". Roberto Peci was kidnapped, tortured, murdered and left in a filthy but used by animals and prostitutes of the lowest level, on the outskirts of Rome. They filmed the shooting of the young man and this evidence was found in one of the bases recently discovered by the police.

David Watt

Why Prior cannot ignore Paisley and the Provos

Although the general election in the Irish Republic may delay it by two or three weks, another Northern Ireland "*initiative*" is in the offing, and Mr James Prior, its proud author, is already being told on all sides that he has about as much chance of solving the Ulster problem by fiddling with new constitutional options as a babe in arms has of solving Rubik's Cube. Why does he not go on quietly running the province from Westminster like that nice Mr Roy Mason, instead of stirring things up and making them worse like poor Premier-pecked Mr Humphrey Atkins?

The crucial answer to the last part of the question is that Mr Prior has little choice but to have another go. The idea that direct Westminster rule is the least of the available evils has been the prevailing conventional wisdom for most of the last 10 years. It may have been true for some of that period. But the position has looked less and less tenable as the atmosphere in Northern Ireland has deteriorated during the past nine months, and now actually begins to look *like a recipe for long-term* calamity.

It may seem odd to assert this when the security situation has been comparatively quiet and when the Provisional IRA has received several major blows at the hands of the army and the RUC. Nevertheless, it is a sad irony that these military successes are overshadowed by a shift to political extremism. Two developments have marked this change — the growing power of Mr Ian Paisley and the emergence of the *Provisionals* into the political arena. Since the election of Bobby Sands, the Provo hunger-striker, to the Westminster Parliament, and since the Northern Ireland local elections last May, the politics of the province have been polarized more than at any time since the emergency began.

On the Catholic side, moderate SDLP leaders like Mr John Hume have been driven into more and more Republican positions in order to avoid being outflanked by Sinn Fein, and now appear to have rejected all settlements, however temporary, in the context of the six counties of Northern Ireland. On the Protestant front, the Official Unionist Party is increasingly split and looks more and more like disintergrating. And underlying both these shifts is a social demoralization of political opinion. The Protestant middle classes have opted out of politics and are leaving the field to be *occupied* by the Paisleyites. The Catholics are back in their bunkers.

The logical — and indeed probable — outcome of all this is further steady progress for Mr Paisley's militant Protestantism, based on violent denunciations of the Westminster government's alleged failure to protect the province "*adequately*", and further electoral evidence of the despair and alienation of Catholics.

The Paisley line now points unmistakably to the notion of an "independent" Northern Ireland which would, in effect, restore the Protestant ascendancy by the application of simple *majority* rule. This in turn leads to the prospect of civil war. And it follows that unless, like Mr James Callaghan, *The Sunday Times*, and other wishful thinkers, one believes that the Protestants in an independent Northern Ireland could be restrained from abuse of their position by remote control of a financial kind from London, some new attempt to prevent the Paisley bandwagon rolling onwards has to be made. A kind of Paisleyite Unilateral Declaration of Independence is probably quite a long way off, other things being *equal*, but a sudden sharp increase in IRA activity or a sudden revulsion of public opinion in Great Britain against the endless war could *precipitate* a major crisis very quickly.

How, then, are the moderate parties and their factions to be revived? Not by following the precepts of Mr Enoch *Powell's* wing of the Ulster Unionists and integrating Northern Ireland completely into the United Kingdom — a course which would drive Catholics to desperation by, as it were, clanging the prison door on them for ever; and certainly not by further moves towards the Republic, which would *simply* be grist to Mr Paisley's mill.

Nor does an immediate attempt to impose a power-sharing executive look remotely realistic, only 18 months after Mr Atkins's failure. The alternative to an executive offered by Mr Atkins — a consultative Assembly, elected on a system of proportional representation — is also at first sight pretty futile, and for the same reason: that neither the Official Unionists nor the SDLP were interested.

But since there is no other opening shot on the board it is not surprising that Mr Prior should be reported to be trying the consultative Assembly again, with added inducements to the parties to make proper use of it.

What might these be? The most valuable from the Catholic point of view would be watchdog and veto powers over some aspects of administration, particularly as they affect human rights and non-discrimination For the Protestants, it is more difficult to devise alternatives, unless the Assembly gives them renewed access to power — which seems to be excluded by all the reasons which led to direct rule in the first place.

But is it? Mr Prior's contribution to the debate seems to have been to question this last assumption. According to the leaks from Belfast, he has thought up a


James Prior: not much choice...

scheme which leaves the Protestants with some light at the end of their tunnel — by stipulating that if the Assembly, as duly elected, can put together a stable and *representative* Executive from its own members, the Westminster Government will hand over to that Executive.

The question, as yet unanswered, is what criteria are to be applied in judging what is stable and representative. Clearly, a simple majority of the Assembly will not suffice, since that would obviously be a simple return to the Stormont system. But if a simple majority is not the answer, where should the hurdle be placed?

The problem can best be seen by looking at a plausible result of elections this spring for an Assembly of, say, 70 members (the number proposed by Mr Atkins):

DUP (Paisleyite)	22	(31 per cent)
Official Unionist	18	(26 per cent)
SDLP	18	(26 per cent)
Alliance	8	(11 per cent)
Sinn Fein	4	(6 per cent)

These figures (which are, by the way, my own illustrative guesses) show that if one set the executive "trigger" at 60 per cent of the votes in the Asembly, one would be uncomfortably close to giving the Paisleyites and the Official Unionists control (my own figures would give them 57 per cent together). On the other hand, if one sets the trigger at 70 per cent, one would (on my figures) give the Paisleyites a veto over any combination of parties.

It requires nice judgment, not only about present strengths but also future trends, if one is to give strong encouragement to the Northern Ireland politicians to blur the edges of their differences and make coalitions across sectarian boundaries, without at the same time making it either too easy or too difficult. Nobody is likely to boycott the elections (the trial of strength is too tempting) but *Mr Paisley will assuredly* boycott the Assembly if he does not find himself somewhere within striking ditance of power after the elections — and the SDLP will boycott it if it appears *that* Protestant control is likely to be re-established.

To these difficulties must be added the vital problem of *whether Mr Prior should* hold out the prospect that an Executive would control security. Irresponsibility will never be eradicated from Northern Ireland politicians until the security function is restored to them and shared in some way between the two communities, but the sensitivity of the issue is so great that no government at Westminster dare transfer the function to politicians who are so irresponsible.

This is the final twist at the centre of the maze in which Ulster politics *is lost*, and there is no sign as yet that Mr Prior has penetrated to it. And yet it would be churlish to criticize. He has already brought fresh imagination and a sense of movement to the scene and has grasped the fact that while there are no possible policies which are not fraught with appalling risk, we have now reached a point where the riskiest policy of all is to sit tight and do nothing.

Twenty years of honed-up housewives

Everyone is thankful for their friends. But how do you find them? If you move from one neighbourhood to another, far away, you leave behind your friends, your life support systems of baby sitting and taking in parcels and milk bottles and, even worse, you have no one to talk to.

In 1960 Maureen Nichol, then a housebound housewife (with two small children) moved from the suburbs of Wolverhampton where, she says "it took me two years to find a kindred spirit who was willing to do exchange baby minding during the day". In her new home she had to start all over again, and she wrote a letter to *The Guardian*, outlining her predicament, in something of a cry from the heart.

The outcome is described in *The Lively-Minded Women: the first twenty years of the National Housewives Register*, by Betty Jerman (Heinemann, £9.50). Maureen Nichol's problems were shared by many women in the 1960s, and her letter resulted in the National Housewives Register, an organization that, 20 years later, has more than 21,000 members meeting in 1,000 neighbourhood groups.

Like all great ideas, it was relatively simple. The 1960s, as Betty Jerman points out, was a transitional period for women. No longer did women *consider themselves* to be ordained housewives from the moment they married. At the same time, the educational opportunities for young women were not yet available for them to qualify for work traditionally done by men. There was a great physical upheaval, in that people moved to new housing estates, and to better housing away from their friends and families.

The world that mothers and children live in is also isolated. Many could not *exchange anything like* a reasonable conversation with another adult during the day, until their husbands came home in the evening.

Maureen Nichol, the founder of the NHR, contributes a chapter on the beginnings and is herself a typical NHR member. First she had a job at Nathan's, the theatrical costumier, then came marriage, a move to Oxford where she worked, had a baby, and moved, through her husband's job, to a very large council estate, which had provided one public house for the entertainment of the hundreds of people living there. Several dozen letters came as a result of her piece in *The Guardian*, and she rather reluctantly set about compiling a National Register with no telephone, no car, no money, no time and no typewriter. She wrote to *The Guardian* again about this and the avalanche started. The appointment of six regional officers followed. An article by the talented and sympathetic journalist Moira Keenan, then on *The Sunday Times*, brought more than a thousand letters: other newspapers were not so sympathetic: the *Daily Mirror* asked "Will this lead to a break-up of the home?"

It is a touching, funny and inspiring story. No money was available, and small sums were anxiously discussed — could they ask as much as *five shillings* membership? The original "office" was a collection of hand written *index cards in a shoebox in a* kitchen cupboard. Lesley Taylor — an early National Organizer — returned home from the maternity ward with a new baby having dealt with hundreds of letters during her ten days there.

Twenty years on there is a national conference every year, and the old informality has been regularised on a national level, with a constitution. All this had to be done — there was, for example, the discovery of a claim for VAT resulting in a bill for £600, for which funds did not exist.

They were all very anxious not to impose hierarchical structures, and "power seeking" were *two* very *dirty* words. No one has become rich or famous working for the NHR — no one has used it as a stepping stone towards a job in the public eye.

Philippa Toomey

New man at the Tories' research HQ

The remote Peter Cropper starts work on Monday as the new director of the Conservative Research Department — an *appointment* widely regarded in Tory circles as an attempt by the Prime Minister to retrieve it from its recent period of inactivity.

A full-blooded supporter of the Government's economic policies, *Cropper's main concerns will* be to see that the department is well-oiled for the next election, and to coordinate the preparation of the Conservative manifesto.

Cropper, 54, who replaces the wetish Alan Howarth as director, has worked for the CRD twice before — from 1951, six weeks before the general election, until 1953, and between 1975 and 1976. During the period between he was an investment analyst and member of the Stock Exchange. But since 1979 he has been a special adviser at the Treasury.

A somewhat grey character, who *is married* with one *child*, he is expected to develop a closer liaison between the CRD and the Government. It is no secret that since she became Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher has tended to regard the department as a sort of citadel of Heathite conservatism, and her scepticism, coupled with the fact that the CRD has had comparatively little to do *since the party* came into office, has sent it into the coldrums.

Cropper told me yesterday: "The CRD has ticked over quite efficiently, although *its* size is half what it was in the run-up to the 1979 election. My priority will be to ensure that it is ready and *working* to cope with the next election. Although that is over two years away we must be ready somewhat before the last moment."

Roads to Rome

Lord Longford has let *it* drop that, foremost Anglo-Catholic personality though he is, he was not the Church's first choice to write the authorized biography of Pope John Paul II for his forthcoming visit to Britain.

The Vatican's favourite English writer, apparently, was his wife, the biographer Elizabeth Longford. She, however, had to refuse *because she* was busy at the time with a book on the Queen. "The only possible reason to have declined", Longford told the annual Authors' Night dinner at the press club. The Pope jostled the Princess of Wales for attention at the dinner, as Longford's address was followed by that of Robert Lacey, author of one of seven books on the Princess to appear in the coming months. Longford has to face competition from only two rival Papal observers, Norman St John Stevas (Faber) and Paul Johnson (Weidenfeld and Nicholson), but both had the advantage of meeting the Pope before they wrote about him. Longford's audience at the Vatican took place only after he finished writing and a photo of his momentous meeting in Rome will decorate the book as a final seal of authenticity.

THE TIMES DIARY



Being cast away alone on a desert island may not be everybody's idea of fun but being marooned on the same sub-tropical paradise as the hundreds of other folk who have been shipwrecked during the course of the world's longest-running radio programme Desert Island Discs, might not be so bad.

Or at least so one mused yesterday at the BBC's castaway-studded party to celebrate the show's fortieth anniversary. Just imagine rubbing sun-burnt shoulders with Paul McCartney, Princess Margaret, Margaret Thatcher, (who weren't there) and Michael Palin, Frankie Howerd and Lord Asa Briggs (who were) on some sandy little atoll.

Roy Plomley, the programme's dapper and diminutive host, would I suppose, inevitably become the group's de facto leader having dreamt up the idea in the first place. His brand of diplomacy would be invaluable for defusing any nasty incidents: I mean, the Beverley Sisters might fall out or Acker Bilk might have a go at George Melly.

Lord Soper, John Mortimer and Sir Robin Day might form some kind of al fresco kitchen cabinet, while Cliff Morgan and Harry Carpenter could organize the hunting. Marje Proops ought to be specially assigned to keep an eye on Jonathan Miller, perhaps the only castaway in the history of the programme to choose a razor blade as his one "luxury" piece of flotsam.

Donkey's friend

John Lockwood, the eccentric who founded Britain's most *famous* donkey sanctuary was cremated yesterday in Guildford.

The lovable black sheep of an illustrious family, who gave up a successful haulage business to devote his life to donkeys, Lockwood achieved notoriety a few years ago when he threatened Captain Mark Phillips with court action alleging cruelty to the Queen's horse, Columbus at Badminton.

The brother of Sir Joseph Lockwood, a former chairman of EMI, Charles Lockwood, an international merchant banker at the centre of a multi-million pound kidnap in the Argentine and cousin of Margaret Lockwood, the film and stage star, John Lockwood turned his back on big business the day he spotted a man by the roadside savagely beating a donkey.

Stopping the car immediately, he felled the culprit with one blow and went on to found his sanctuary at Wormley in Surrey. Starting with just one donkey 25 years ago he eventually rescued a *menagerie* of no fewer than 500 donkeys, 45 horses, goats, sheep, dogs, cats, rabbits, geese, chickens and ducks.

Fortnum takeaway

Signs of irritation among the normally composed staff may be detected at the Queen's grocers, Fortnum and Mason in Piccadilly.

Some of the longer serving members lost their composure earlier this week when a gang of navvies marched into the ground floor to remove the fluted plaster columns which have decorated the central aisle for donkey's years and dismember the hand-carved mahogany food counters with sledgehammers.

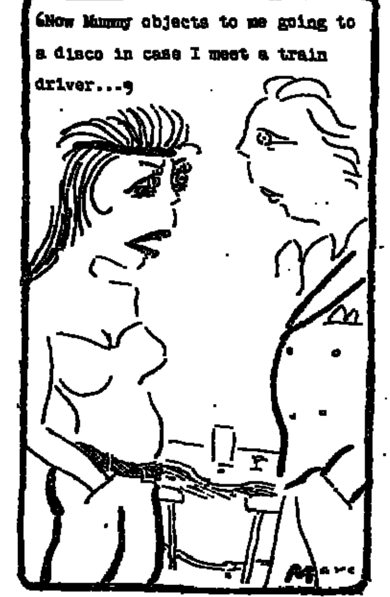
The counters are to be replaced with veneered chipboard of foreign manufacture as part of the refurbishment of the floor which, Fortnum's explain, is partly designed to make things "easier" for customers and *partly* to celebrate *the store's* 275th anniversary.

Staff, who regard the changes as uncultured, remain suspicious of the company's announcement that the original items will be preserved while a decision *is* taken on what to do with them. Moreover, I understand that representations will be made to local conservation organizations.

What a corker

Knowing how to define Bouzy without making personal remarks about the customers is but one of the attributes of the wine waiter of the year. Charles Piggin, who won the title yesterday in an annual competition for sommeliers organized by Grants of St. James's *had a host of drinking* problems to overcome on his way to success.

There are many of us who are



pleased enough with the wine service if the waiter can get the liquid into the glass without spilling it down the back of our *necks, without finding it* necessary that he should also be able to tell us all about *debourbage, taille Chablis*, and *cordon de Royat*, or know to the nearest litre how much juice can be extracted from four tonnes of grapes to make champagne.

Grants found some 70 wine waiters who could answer their preliminary questionnaire correctly, *knowing, for example*, how to warm a cold decanter. Those who could best explain why dry white wine is usually recommended with fish went on to face a practical test in which a party of diners asked for a wine that would suit both game and veal, demanded liqueurs before the meal, and wanted *something that would go nicely* with fresh pineapple.

Those who lamely suggested the house red, or who agreed that Muscadet was "Nice and sweet" were quickly eliminated, and the surviving six faced a *gruelling* quiz on the lines of Mastermind.

Piggin, who manages Hamiltons restaurant in Manchester, said afterwards: "Of course most customers know what they want, and I cannot tell them they are wrong. I can only make suggestions. "The danger, of course, *is* that clients now might justifiably take him for something of a know-all.

Under the knocker

Geoffrey James, the property developer who brought the Beatles' Apple headquarters *for* redevelopment, has resold the building — with the exception of the front door. A member of the committee at the St James' Club, he has decided that the door (a remarkable item of Beatles memorabilia complete with the carved signatures of many of those who used it) should be disposed of at closed auction for the benefit of the club's *favorite* charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind. The door, now being framed, is expected to fetch up to £3,000 and Leslie Bricusse, the composer of popular music, is regarded as a leading contender for it.

Michael Horsnell

هكذا من الأصل

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

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ALL ABOUT SOLVENCY

The public finances of the Irish Republic are in a bad way. Ireland took successive oil price shocks in its stride-by borrowing and inflating. It was a time of spring-like confidence in the Irish economy. There was a trend of high growth, sunrise industries were being successfully naturalized from the United States, Germany and Japan, and the important farming sector was enjoying unknown prosperity as it rapidly moved up to EEC price levels for its product — an agricultural boom that has duly bust. Nobody wanted to let Opec spoil all that. Better to borrow and print, and Ireland, which had stable government, a good growth record and a population structure of an unusually young profile, found that it also had a high credit rating abroad.

The consequences were succinctly described the other day by Senator T. K. Whitaker, Ireland's most distinguished postwar public servant, who had a great deal to do with his country's earlier economic take-off. "We now have one of the highest inflation rates in the EEC, an external deficit of unsustainable proportions, and an overhang of debt, domestic and foreign, the interest on which alone is absorbing 30 per cent of total tax revenue." The people of Ireland are now more indebted to foreign bankers than the people of Poland. Growth has fallen back to 1 per cent. Unemployment has climbed to 11 per cent.

In last summer's general election Dr Garret FitzGerald successfully pressed the charge of economic incompetence against Mr Charles Haughey. He came to power pledged to restore the public finances by cutting the deficit and reducing dependence on foreign creditors. But the coalition out of which his government was formed was festooned with other political pledges that interfered with that objective.

Worse, with his overall majority of minus three, Dr FitzGerald had to rely upon the parliamentary support of a handful of independents of varying shades of socialism. It was that that gave way on Wednesday night.

His government's budget was a courageous attempt to embark on the uphill road to solvency. But Dr FitzGerald had boxed himself in. While the cost of maintaining the activities of government at a constant level continued remorselessly to rise, his ministers failed to achieve a significant net reduction in public expenditure for the coming year. To make matters worse the government had just awarded a 16 per cent pay rise to its overlarge army of overpaid employees, and had to budget for an 18 per cent increase in the bill for pay and pensions in the public sector. (Echoes of the first year of Mrs Thatcher's government.)

The central fiscal promise Dr FitzGerald had made the electorate was to cut the standard rate of income tax to 25 per cent, compensating as necessary out of indirect taxes. The budget did not cut the standard rate, but it could hardly in the face of that promise put it up. So with no reduction in expenditure, no scope for higher rates of income tax and no stomach for capital taxes, the deficit could only be cut by raising sales and excise taxes. That the budget proposed, giving another sharp kick to inflation. It proved too much for Dr FitzGerald's fragile parliamentary majority. Mr Haughey has immediately accused ministers of exaggerating the seriousness of the nation's financial disorders, in which he shows his consistency since he made light of them as they accumulated during his own recent period of office. But he may not find that a profitable line to pursue in the election campaign into which the Republic is now plunged. In the first place the Irish public has a pretty strong sense by now that something is seriously amiss. In the second place the Fianna Fail party has not been at ease with itself since Mr Haughey toppled Mr Lynch from the leadership and premiership in December 1979. Only the other day, in a new anointment of the wounds inflicted in that event, Mr Haughey brought in as frontbench spokesman on finance Mr Martin O'Donoghue, a former economics minister whom Mr Haughey excluded from his cabinet when he became prime minister. Mr O'Donoghue did not endorse the high spending, high borrowing policies that followed, and he has recently been deploring excessive foreign indebtedness.

How to regain solvency and how to distribute the pain. These are the questions that will dominate the election. It is a common misconception that the people of the Republic are in a constant state of high excitement about the "national question" of Irish unity. The back burner is the usual place for that. What really does exercise them is that the unwonted prosperity they have been experiencing shall not be lost. And some among them are deeply anxious about the possible consequences of a serious failure of the economy in a society which is predominantly youthful and less amenable than before to civil sanctions and ecclesiastical authority; to which few of the traditional routes of profitable emigration are left open; and which harbours an underground culture of the gun.

WANTED, A LAY-OFF CLAUSE

Of all the 18 clauses in the Employment Bill, published yesterday, the one that would be most useful, if enacted, to British Rail in its dispute with Aslef is one which has been left out. The dispute is costing BR £14m a week, largely because the terms of its contracts with its employees make it uncertain that it has any legal right to lay off the majority who turn up and have to be paid even when there is no work for them to do. A clause enabling an employer to lay off workers in such circumstances, as proposed by the Engineering Employers' Federation, would do much to restore the balance of industrial power in dispute where small groups of workers are strategically placed to bring large organizations to a halt.

Of course, the fact that such a provision would help one side in one current dispute is not proof in itself that it would be desirable or just. But the strong interest that the outside public have in a settlement bringing gains in productivity, as well as the even stronger interest in the same thing of the majority of railway workers who have already accepted the need for flexible rostering, both demonstrate the enormous negative power that a small industrial group can wield in the absence of such a clause. Aslef is able by itself to block the improvement of efficiency in their large and heavily subsidized service industry even though it represents only a tenth of the workers in that industry. Many other groups possess similar power in other industries. There is in such cases an imbalance of industrial power.

A lay-off clause would be little help to a management trying to push through changes against the entrenched opposition of most of the workforce: in that case it would merely have the effect of uniting them against him all the more strongly: But it would be a valuable tool of industrial diplomacy to help isolate a destructive minority. There would need to be safeguards for the pension and redundancy rights of innocent bystanders laid off, and due notice of the management's intentions. The law already provides that a minimum of five days' pay must be given to workers laid off through lack of work, as frequently occurs in the motor industry. It would be against natural justice for employees to be laid off under this clause because of disputes not directly involving their unions or their employers.

The clause could not be stymied by campaigns of non-cooperation and creates no opportunities for individuals in search of martyrdom. It would be unlikely to cause much extra ferocity to the TUC's proposed sanctions planned to make the Bill unworkable.

The Bill follows last November's consultative paper in all major respects. There is no objectionable element of retrospection in the proposal to compensate workers who lost their jobs because of closed shop agreements between 1974 and 1980: the compensation is to come from public funds and is quite distinct from the penal compensation awarded by civil courts. A welcome clarification of the section making "union labour only" contracts void removes immunity from strikes and blackings intended to press an employer to observe such a contract. But, though strengthened in small ways since November, the Bill is still flawed by the absence of the clause on lay-offs. The problems of drafting are soluble if there is a will, and the chance may not recur for many years: there is still time for the Government or a body of Tory backbenchers to move an amendment as the Bill goes through the House.

TURKEY'S EUROPEAN CREDENTIALS

The parliamentary assembly of the Council of Europe has adopted a very sensible attitude to the problem of human rights and democracy in Turkey, which is one of the Council's 21 member-states.

The Council is an association of democratic states, formed with the specific object of upholding the value of democracy and freedom, including human rights. Its greatest achievement has been the European Convention on Human Rights with its machinery, unique in international relations, of a Commission to investigate complaints and a Court to adjudicate them. It has no powers of enforcement. The only sanction it can use is condemnation and, in the last resort, suspension or termination of the offending state's membership.

Precisely because it is the last resort, the expulsion of a member-state is not something to be decided lightly or hastily. Every attempt must be made to use the machinery of the Council to restore freedom and human and political rights to the citizens of the state in question before the decision is reached that they can only be helped by casting their government, so to speak, into outer darkness.

The case of the Greek dictatership of 1967-74 provides the now-classic precedent. The colonels seized power in May 1967. A complaint against them was formally lodged with the Human Rights Commission by three Scandinavian governments in September of that year. The Commission took two years to complete its investigations and it was only in December 1969 that the Council of Ministers was ready to decide on Greece's expulsion — a decision forestalled by the Greek government's last-minute withdrawal.

It is now 16 months since General Evren and his colleagues seized power in Turkey. Yet a recommendation for Turkey's immediate expulsion from the Council would certainly have been premature. For one thing, the political circumstances in Turkey are far less clear-cut than they were in Greece. A strong case could be made for saying that democracy had already broken down, with stalemate in parliament and terror in the streets, before the military takeover occurred, and that a period of authoritarian rule to set the country back on its feet was inescapable. For another, the specific allegations of human rights violations have yet to be investigated by the Commission. Under the terms of the resolution, this should now be done.

The Commission's procedure is secret, and is bound to take at least some months. Rather than taking umbrage and walking out of the Council at this stage, the Turkish generals should take advantage of the respite offered to try to restore the faith of their fellow-Europeans in their good faith. General Evren has already spoken of a referendum in November of this year, to be followed by general elections a year later. But more important than the precise timetable are the conditions in which the return to democracy takes place, for these will determine whether it is genuine democracy or not. In particular, there must be genuine freedom of expression, and no one should be deprived of his political rights unless a court of law has found him guilty of a serious crime (such as incitement to violence). Otherwise the electorate will not enjoy true freedom of choice. Above all, the government must make a serious effort to put an end to the practices referred to in a recent Amnesty International report, according to which 60 people have died in custody since the coup of September 1980.

It would also greatly improve the Turkish Government's standing in Europe if it were seen to make a serious and urgent effort to reach a solution to the Cyprus conflict, enabling it to end the Turkish occupation of northern Cyprus which has now persisted for seven and a half years.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Scientific output in Britain

From Professor P. V. Danckwerts, FRS

Sir, Professor Hobsbawm (January 25) quotes content-analysis of scientific periodicals in the decade 1970-1980 to suggest that British scientific output declined during this period. It may have done so but the statistics are irrelevant unless one can first define "scientific output" and then correlate it with the number of publications in scientific periodicals.

I have been editor of an international journal of engineering science for over 20 years. The main change in the nature and number of the papers submitted over this period has been that they have increased in number, the proportion coming from the USA and the Far East as against Europe has increased and there has been a large increase in the number of contributions from universities. The pressure to "*publish or perish*" in the universities is obvious, while it is difficult to get interesting contributions from industry, where much of the relevant research and development is done, because there is a lack of incentive or even an actual disincentive to publish. The unfortunate result is that much of the material actually published tends to be in-filling rather than an expansion of the frontiers of knowledge. I have not been aware of an absolute decline in the value of the contributions from Britain.

I think it would be extremely naive to try to deduce from the number of articles or words published by British scientists or engineers the value of their contribution to useful knowledge. If one must indulge in such chauvinistic exercises there are other more reliable indicators.

Yours,
PETER DANCKWERTS, FRS,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
University of Cambridge,
Pembroke Street,
Cambridge.
January 26.

From Mr P. A. B. Whitmee

Sir, Professor Hobsbawm's letter (January 25), drawing attention to the comparative decline in British scientific research output between 1970 and 1980 certainly does deserve serious consideration although probably not in the way he intended. As management consultants we have observed during this period a marked movement of high grade scientists from research into industry. This trend has been particularly noticeable over the last two years covering a wide variety of functions and characterised by a large proportion of such individuals setting up their own businesses.

We appreciate that these changes may diminish this country's prestige in the scientific world, but we applaud and encourage a belated recognition by our best brains of the value and interest to be found in the industrial sphere.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. B. WHITMEE,
The Welbeck Group Limited,
Panton House,
25 Haymarket, SW1.
January 27.

Open secret

From Mr Michael Robbins

sir, You report from Bonn (January 23) that "secret" plans by Hitler for a very broad gauge railway across Europe have been unearthed. Such a railway was certainly planned; it was indeed one of Hitler's personal pet schemes; but "secret", in the sense that nothing has been known about it until now, it was not.

It has been mentioned in *Hitler's Table Talk* (1951), Albert Speer's memoirs (1969), and W. Maser's *Hitler*(1971); the eminent French railwayman Louis Armand ironically described how Reichsbahn engineers consulted with him on the subject during the war in an essay of 1970; and particulars of the locomotive designs, 52 axles and all, were published in a German magazine in the same year.

But if Herr Joachimsthaler's new book gives any explanation why Hitler persisted with such an extraordinary idea it will help to throw light on another aspect of that remarkable character.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ROBBINS,
7 Courthope Villas, SW19.
January 24.

Better informed?

From Professor Denis Pym

Sir, This Information Technology Year your paper so noisily acclaims in a special report (January 14) smacks of yet another imposition in the name of progress. Do we need the information the technology offers? Will it elevate the human condition or just make a monkey out of man?

In my view too much of the content of the information technology we've already got is indistinguishable from noise and too much a substitute for experience, everyday experience like doing things for ourselves, thinking, relating to others, living. Of course, it serves some commercial interests and it sustains "make-work" employment, and it keeps us in the happy, dependent state of consumers of junk. But as an imposition it only denigrates the human soul.

Yours sincerely,
DENIS PYM,
Professor of Organizational Behaviour,
London Business School,
Sussex Place,
Regents Park, NW1.
January 18.

Rail blacking 'The Times' and 'The Sun'

From Lord Hunt

Sir, I read with some concern your leader article, "The union censors", in your issue dated January 26. You say that you find it sad that so few people have felt willing or able to speak about "this blatant limitation" on the free flow of information imposed recently by some members of Aslef in refusing to carry copies of Murdoch Group newspapers out of King's Cross, on grounds of an article in *The Sun* to which they objected, notwithstanding the advice of their General Secretary not to be provoked.

As one of the members of the Royal Commission on the Press, 1974 — 77, I write to support your views in strongly condemning such action, particularly following the undertaking given by two union officials to the High Court.

But there is another side of the coin. You make the valid point that "the press does not claim to be perfect. It claims to be free". This is fundamental to our democracy. But it is no less fundamental that the press which, like the train drivers, bears a heavy public responsibility, should also act responsibly. I find it sad that you should have made no mention of this.

Can you seriously claim that it was a responsible decision on the part of the Editor of *The Sun*, other than in purely commercial terms, to give front-page, banner-headline treatment, at a time of such sensitivity over the dispute which is dislocating British Rail, to allegations made regarding malpractices by certain train drivers? While it was obviously right that such revelations should be reported, the sensational treatment of the subject matter, tending to convey the impression that such practices are rife, was most unwise and probably unjustified.

By my book, it was a blatant example of editorial indiscretion.

Yours truly,
JOHN HUNT,
House of Commons,

From the Director of the Press Council

Sir, Your leading article of January 26 said accurately that none of the general answers to error and falsehood in the British press was conclusive. It identified the Press Council as one, saying fairly that the Council takes time to establish the facts in any particular case and issue its rebukes or aquittals. It is conscious of this difficulty and doing its best to speed those processes, but not at the expense of their fairness.

On the day your leader appeared the Press Council said the right to answer to unpalatable reporting and hostile comment could never be the blacking of newspapers by those who distributed them.

It is not surprising railwaymen should feel angry and aggrieved at allegations made against train drivers and reported prominently, but anger at reports and comments cannot excuse a blockade of newpapers because of their contents. To support or condone the blockade is to erode freedom.

In the Council's view the drivers attacked, like any other group, could expect the opportunity to correct inaccuracies, answer their critics and put a contrary view. Those denied that right have a sound ground for complaint to the Press Council but the case is not advanced by resort to the weapons of censorship or blockade. Mr Morris's letter (January 27) touches on a good point: whatever the defects and inconveniences of, and the differences between, a free press and free trade unions they are commonly united as the two first casualties of totalitarian regimes.

Yours etc,
KENNETH MORGAN,
The Press Council,
1 Salisbury Square, EC4.
January 28.

Social sciences

From Professor Charles Feinstein and Professor Alan Williams

Sir, Professor Ferns (January 21) is right in pointing out that it is ultimately the taxpayer who supports social science research, but the rest of his letter does not contribute very helpfully to a clarification of the fundamental issue, which is how much and what sort of social science research should the taxpayer be supporting? Thre are essentially three criteria which should appeal to the community:

1. The extension of our capacity to understand the society in which we live:
2. The extension of our capacity to improve that society (e.g. its economic performance or its social policies):
3. The development of a critical apparatus that would enable us to judge the extent to which any actual or proposed reforms are, on balance, beneficial.

The problem of research support is, then, one of finding channels for directing finance to those people who are most likely to succeed. This is intrinsically a high-risk enterprise, in which the sensible strategy is to carry a diverse "portfolio" of "investments" with different "funds" pursuing different policies (i.e., giving different weight to each of the criteria mentioned above).

The University Grants Committee and the universities and, to some extent, the research councils (including the SSRC) should be giving relatively great weight to 1. Government departments are more likely to be attracted to 2 (assuming that the prerequisite work under 1 is being supported through other channels), and although they should be equally interested in 3, this may prove to be very sensitive, and its findings unwelcome, so it is likely to be approached with considerable caution for fear of "political embarrassment."

It is therefore essential that support for this kind of work is kept at arm's length from the politicians. There is also the problem that Government departments may be over-concerned with immediate and short-term problems to the detriment of more fundamental, long-term research.

Seen in this light we clearly need *distinct* channels, one properly dominated by the academics from the perspective of their respective disciplines (UGC/universities), one by policymakers from the perspective of the needs of society (Government departments), and one pursuing the much more difficult task of acting as a forum and tribunal in which a balance is kept, and the middle ground is thoroughly worked over (which is the role of the SSRC).

If this forum/tribunal is to reflect the many conflicting strands of opinion, interest, and judgment which are the hallmarks of an intellectually healthy community, then it has to adopt a liberal and participative mode of operation, with researchers putting forward ideas for judgment by their peers. This may be irksome but it is certainly salutary.

Lord Rothschild is in a good position to take a detached strategic view, and it is to be hoped that he will not be swayed, by the short-term pressures, into setting us on a course which will greatly weaken the capacity of the research community to serve the diverse needs of our fellow citizens (now and in the future) in a balanced and helpful way.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES FEINSTEIN,
ALAN WILLIAMS,
Department of Economics and Related Studies,
University of York,
Heslington,
York.

Consular service

From Lady Marley

Sir, Petty theft in the street is a hazard to which we are now exposed as a simple, if regrettable, fact of life. The inconvenience is compounded, however, if it happens to occur abroad. Having had my bag snatched just after noon on a recent Saturday in Paris (and having also just cashed a cheque), I found the attitude of casual bystanders, as of the police themselves, a revelation of kindness and efficiency.

But the British Consulate? Yes, they could issue a temporary passport for a fee of £3, but regretted that there would be an additional charge of £17 for service "out of hours", i.e. after 12pm on Saturday. £20 in all, then, was the price to be exacted of a tax-paying British subject for the privilege of returning to his own country, with — so far as they knew — no friends, no contacts and not so much as a Métro fare. The kindly French couple who accompanied me to the police station, from which I telephoned the consulate, were as appalled as I was.

Yours faithfuly,
DOONE MARLEY,
104 Ebury Mews, SW1.
January 18.

A diary in question

From Dr Jacqueline Simpson

Sir, Whatever Lady Walley (January 26) may think, it does make a difference whether an alleged diary is an authentic document or an amusing forgery. To take a simple example: for over a hundred years folklorists have been curious about the custom of "sin-eating", now well-known through Mary Webb's novel *Precious Bane*. Reliable accounts of this custom are extremely rare, and all seem to derive from one man, the seventeenth-century antiquarian John Aubrey.

When I saw *The Diary of a Farmer's Wife* on television I was excited to notice an episode involving a "sin-eater". Here was an apparent confirmation of Aubrey from an independent source; here was an occurrrence of this rare custom at a different period and in a different area, thus extending our information beyond Aubrey's statement. Or so it seemed. As your readers know, all it was was pretty fiction. Sir, it does matter.

Yours faithfully,
JACQUELINE SIMPSON,
Editor of *Folklore*,
The Folklore Society,
c/o University College London,
Gower Street, WC1.

JPs' justice

From Mr David Wolchover

Sir, In their encomium reported today (January 25) on the better quality of justice in magistrates' courts as against the crown court, the Justices' Clerks Association appear to have forgotten why jury trial is so often the preferred choice of defendants maintaining their innocence.

It is now nearly half a decade since the Criminal Law Act 1977 enacted (by section 48) the power for the making of rules requiring the prosecutor in summary trials to furnish advance information concerning the facts and matters of which the prosecution propose to adduce evidence. We are still waiting.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WOLCHOVER,
11 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.

Jewish reference in Benn speech

From Professor J. P. Stern

Sir, Fascism in Europe is dead, but its rhetoric lives on.

In likening you and your colleagues to the Kapos of the German concentration camps (report, January 27), Mr Benn has done what demagogues always do. He has found a metaphor connoting the greatest conceivable vilification and applied it to a hostile collective of his own invention. Appealing to his audience's real or imagined ignorance of the past (there were no gas chambers in Dachau), he tries to divert our attention from a humdrum and uncomfortable issue of domestic politics.

Does he really not know what a corrupt press is like? Or was it all said in the heat of the moment, a moment of righteous indignation? Nietzsche knows better:

> In all great deceivers a remarkable *process is* at work, to which they owe their power . . . In the very act of deception with all its preparation, the dreadful voice, expression and gestures, amid their effective scenario they are overcome *by their belief in themselves*; it is this belief which then speaks so persuasively, so miracle-like, to the audience.

Yours, etc,
J. P. STERN,
Department of German,
University College London,
Gower Street, WC1.
January 28.

From Rabbi David Goldberg

Sir, I have tended to regard Mr Wedgwood Benn, unlike one or two of his political contemporaries, not so much as sinister as amiably loony. Now I am not so sure. In your report (January 27) of his meeting with the Farringdon branch of the National Union of Journalists, you quoted him as saying that journalists who write what they are told to write are using "the Nuremberg excuse" and their role in society "should be likened to the Jews in Dachau who herded other Jews into the gas chambers."

One can detect, just, a train of thought-association from Nuremberg to Dachau, But to compare working journalists, even at their most craven, to Nazi war criminals or with pitiable wretches desperately trying to save their own lives in a concentration camp, displays either monumental tastelessness or, I would more charitably prefer to suggest, an imagination so fevered that it is in urgent need of psychiatric attention.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID J. GOLDBERG,
17 Bartholomew Villas, NW5.
January 27.

Proper names

From Lord Norwich

Sir, It started off well. Only a few months after I succeeded to my father's title, I handed over my shiny new passport — in which the prefix "The Right Honourable" was written out in full — to the receptionist at the Slon Hotel, Ljubljana, and was duly inscribed in his register as the one thing I had always wanted to be: Mr Right.

Since then, however, I have gone steadily downhill. There was a bad moment some years ago when another receptionist, ashen-faced, handed me a sinister-looking envelope on which I was addressed as The Vice Count; but even then the depths were not yet plumbed. The ultimate — I hope — humiliation came only quite recently, when I received a missive addressed to me in the style according to which I now sign myself — as.

Your obedient servant,
The Discount Norwich,
JOHN JULIUS NORWICH,
24 Blomfield Road, W9.
January 25.

Making a contribution

From Mr R. J. Rees

Sir, Supporters of the present government often make a distinction, as Mr Heseltine did on *Nationwide* last week, between what they call "wealth producers" and the rest. This is extremely irritating to those of us (nurses, doctors, dustmen, teachers, etc) who do what we think of as useful work but do not count as honest-to-goodness WPs.

If politicians must go on making this silly and invidious distinction they might at least tell us which class *they* belong to. Do MPs, and even PMs, count as WPs?

Yours faithfully,
R. J. REES,
Manor Farmhouse,
4 Millway,
Grantchester,
Cambridge.
January 25.

Tank think

From Mr Richard Need

Sir, Petrol (refined by a complex process from precious fossils) costs about £1.70 per gallon; an increase in this price by a few pence frays tempers and makes news.

Yesterday I was told that my gin-and-tonic would cost an extra twopence because the tonic (4 fl oz) had gone up from 24 pence to 26 pence. This means that tonic (water plus traces of a few cheap additives) now costs £10.40 per gallon due to an overnight increase of 80 pence per gallon.

Everyone in the bar paid up without a murmur.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD NEED,
49 Bonner Hill Road,
Kingston Upon Thames,
Surrey.
January 26.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 28: The Prince of Wales, President, this afternoon at Buckingham Palace chaired a meeting of The Prince's Trust.

His Royal Highness, Patron, The Transglobe Expedition, this evening attended a reception at the offices of *The Observer*, 8 St Andrew's Hill, EC4, to mark the final stage of the Expedition.

Major John Winter was *in* attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
January 28: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited Cambridge, and honoured the President of Queens' College (Professor D.W. Bowett) with her presence at luncheon at The *Lodge*.

In the afternoon Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother opened the new buildings at St Paul's Church of England Primary School.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 28: The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron, received representatives of the Staff and Children from the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust this morning.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. R. Knight and Miss J. L. Ricks

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs C. D. V. Knight, of Chipstead, Surrey, and Julia, daughter of Professor C. B. *Ricks* and *Mrs G. S. Kirk*, of Burkitt House, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Mr D. S. Martin and Miss C. A. E. Knight

The engagement is announced between David Selby Martin, of 12 Limerston Street, London, SW10, and Cunitia Amanda Egerton, only daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. A. Knight and the late Mrs *Knight*, of Talkin, Brampton, Cumbria.

Mr M. L. Taverner and Miss D. M. Hall

The engagement is announced between Marcus Louis, third son of Mr Geoffrey Taverner, DFC, and Mrs Mildred Taverner, of Newport, Monmouthshire, and Deborah Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Royston Hall, of Clent, Worcestershire.

Mr A. J. T. Wheen and Miss C. A. McGarrigan

The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Major and Mrs James Wheen, of Barnt Green, Worcestershire, and Carol Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs William McGarrigan, of *Wigan, Lancashire*.

Mr F. E. Winsland and Miss S. J. Parkes

The engagement is announced between Frank, son of the late Mr Noel H. Winsland, and of Mrs M. E. Winsland, of Hunstanton, Norfolk, and Sarah, youngest daughter of the late Major and Mrs Noel C. Parkes, of Yelverton, Devon.

Mr M. A. Burling and Miss A. L. Northcote

The engagement is announced between Michael Burling, of Courtfield Gardens, London, SW5, *and Amanda, twin daughter* of the late Mr M. P. Northcote and Mrs M. A. Northcote, of Kensington, London, W8.

Mr G. B. R. Dixie and Miss H. M. Binns

The engagement is announced between Grahame, son of the late Mr R. V. Dixie and of Mrs I. M. Dixie, of Whetstone, London, and Helen, daughter of Dr and Mrs T. B. Binns, of Causeway, *Horsham, Sussex*.

Mr M. J. D. Everton and Miss S. A. Godfrey

The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of Mr and Mrs Donald Everton, of Little Aston, Staffordshire, and Sally, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Godfrey, of The Moat House, Neen Sollars, Shropshire.

Mr R. A. Partridge and Miss C. E. Curran

The engagement is announced between Robert, second son of Mr and Mrs S. G. Partridge, of Harrow, and Charlotte, daughter *of the late* Mr R. B. Curran and of Mrs Curran, of Watford.

Marriage

Mr C. Beatson-Hird and Miss A. Norton-Smith

The marriage took place on *January 23 at St Clement* Danes, Strand, between Mr Christopher Beatson-Hird, son of Mr and Mrs John Beatson-Hird, of Oldwell House, Ashton-Under-Hill, Worcestershire, and Miss Arabella Norton-Smith, daughter of Group Captain and Mrs Peter Norton-Smith, of Little Warham House, Beaford, Devon. Group Captain, the Rev D. Clark officiated.

The bride was attended by Miss Philippa Beatson-Hird, Miss Grania Watt, Miss Joanna Willis and Sam Wood and Hugh Norton-Smith (nephews of the bride and bridegroom). Mr Christopher Fawcett was best man.

A reception was held at the RAF Club, Piccadilly.

Memorial service

Mr M. Arnold-Forster

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Mark Arnold-Forster was held at St Martin-in-the-Fields yesterday. The Rev Austen Williams officiated. The lessons were read by Mr John Cole and Mr Harry Whewell, northern editor, *The Guardian*. Mr Ian Aitken, political editor, *The Guardian*, Commander Christopher Dreyer and Mrs M. Tuck gave addresses. Among those present were:

Mrs M. Arnold-Forster (widow) and other members of the family, Lord Ardwick, Mrs Shirley Williams, MP, Mr A. Benn, MP, Sir Francis Boyd, Mr Gerry Taylor (managing director, Guardian Newspapers), Mr Peter Preston (editor, The Guardian), Mr Ian Wright, Mr Jim Markwick, Mr Kenneth Dodd, Mr Campbell Page, Mr Jonathan Steele, Mr Richard Gott, Mr *Peter Cole*, *Mr Michael Jack*, Mr Alastair Hetherington, Mr Louis Heren, Mr Michael Frayn and Mr Anthony Sampson.

Birthdays today

Miss Germaine Greer, the writer, who is 43.

Dr R. C. Alston, 49; Major-General Sir George Burns, 71; Lord Ferrier, 82; Lord Gregson, 58; Mr Paul Hodder-Williams, 72; Mr H. N. Lewis, 56; Major-General K. F. Mackay Lewis, 85; Lord Rupert Nevill, 59; Sir Cecil Parrott, 73; the Hon Richard Stanley, 62; Air Chief Marshal Sir Alasdair *Steedman*, 60; Mr George Thomas, MP, 73; Mr Brian Trubshaw, 58; Air Commodore F. West, VC, 86.

The Duke of Kent, as president, will visit The Duke of York's Royal Military School and also the factory of Avo Limited at Dover on March 23.

Latest wills

National Trust shares residue

Dr Allan Victor Mackenzie, of Shrewsbury, left estate valued at £205,377 net. After bequests totalling £23,800 and effects, he left half the residue to the National Trust and the remainder equally between the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Church Missionary Society.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Irwin, Mr Anthony Basden, of Rickmansworth £216,407
Mitchell, Mrs Marjorie, of Leicester £256,756
Wood, Mr Arthur Trafford, of Howsham, Humberside ...£581,488

Reception

Balfour Diamond Jubilee Trust

The Duke of Devonshire was host at a reception given by the Balfour Diamond Jubilee Trust in honour of Lord Blake at the Royal Society of Arts yesterday. Among the guests were:

The Minister for the Arts, Baroness Birk, Mr Ellis Birk, Lady Blake, Mr and Mrs Robert Dougall, Mrs Maurice Edelman, Lady Falkender, Colonel D. M. Gluckstein, Lord Goodman, CH, Mr Eric Lucas, Mr Norman St John-Stevas, MP, and Sir Leonard and Lady Wolfson.

Luncheons

Lady Mayoress of Westminster

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster gave a luncheon at City Hall yesterday. The guests included:

The French Ambassador and Mme Emmanuel de Margerie, Sir Frank and *Lady Roberts*, *Sir David and Lady* Scott, Alderman Sir Ronald and Lady Gardner-Thorpe, Mr John Wheeler, MP, and Mrs Wheeler, Major and Mrs R D Warnford-Davis, Signor and Signora Massimo Coen, Mr and Mrs Donald M Smith, Mr and Mrs E J Eyre, Mr and Mrs Graham Jeffrey, Councillor and Mrs John Bull and Mr J *A Clewley*.

British Council

Sir John Burgh, Director-General of the British Council, was host at a luncheon held at 10 Spring Gardens yesterday for members of the Anglo-Japanese Mixed Commission.

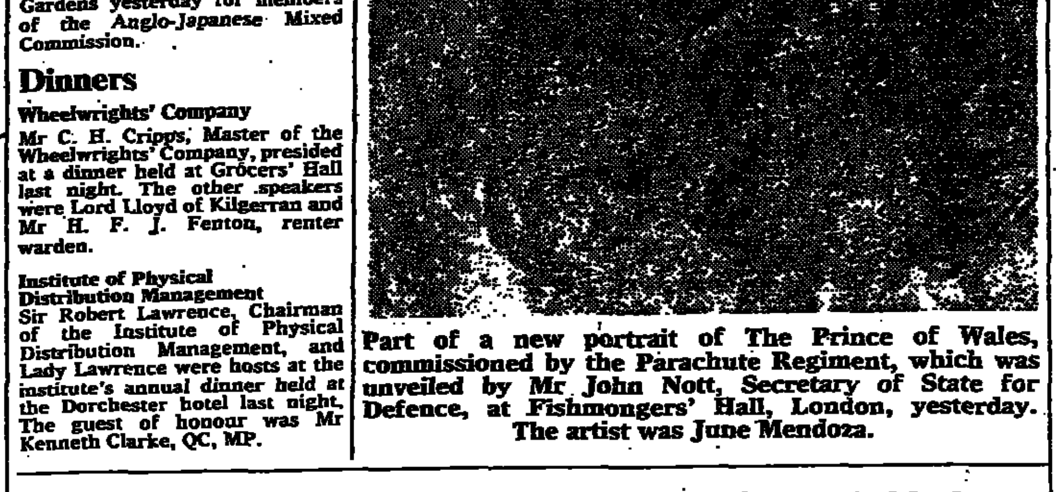
Dinners

Wheelwrights' Company

Mr C. H. Cripps, Master of the Wheelwrights' Company, presided at a dinner held at Grocers' Hall last night. The other speakers were Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran and Mr H. F. J. Fenton, renter warden.

Institute of Physical Distribution Management

Sir Robert Lawrence, Chairman of the Institute of Physical Distribution Management, and Lady Lawrence were hosts at the institute's annual *dinner held at* the Dorchester hotel last night. The guest of honour was Mr Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP.



Part of a new portrait of The Prince of Wales, commissioned by the Parachute Regiment, which was unveiled by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, at Fishmongers' Hall, London, yesterday. The artist was June Mendoza.

American silver teapot fetches $63,250

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The hunger of Americans for art and antiques of American origin was underlined again on Wednesday when a pear-shaped silver teapot made by Myer Myers, of New York, in about 1750-60 was sold for $63,250 (£30,943). That is the highest auction price recorded for an American silver teapot. It weighs 21ozs.

The teapot was included in a Sotheby's sale of Americana in New York. Only 2 per cent of the total was left unsold.

The most remarkable auction in England yesterday was Sotheby's sale in Chester of eighteenth and nineteenth century furniture and works of art. Six per cent was unsold.

The interest of dealers from *Italy and Spain in person, and from northern Europe by telephone* buoyed up prices throughout the sale, according to the auctioneer.

The top price in the sale was £10,100 (estimated £7,000 to £10,000) for an early eighteenth century Dutch walnut marquetry bureau bookcase.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr K. J. Uffen, aged 57, British Ambassador at Bogota, to be United Kingdom Permanent Representative, with the rank of ambassador, to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, in succession to Mr A. F. Maddocks.

Mr Bryan Sparrow, aged 48, British Ambassador at Yaoundé, to be additionally Ambassador (non-resident) to the Central African Republic.

Mr Alwyn A. Robinson, managing director of the *Daily Mail*, and **Mr Derek A. Webster**, chairman and editorial director of the *Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail*, to be joint vice-chairmen of the Press Council, in succession to Sir Edward Pickering.

Mr James Hornby, aged 57, Headmaster of Clifton College preparatory school, Bristol, and chairman of the Independent Schools Information Service, to be *general secretary* of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools.

Mr Cameron McNicol, deputy general manager of the Royal Albert Hall, to be general manager, in succession to Mr Anthony J. Charlton.

25 Years Ago

From The Times of Monday January 28 1957

Living Longer

A review of mortality in the *county of London from 1900 to* 1955, given as an appendix to the 1955 report of Dr J. A. Scott, county medical officer of health, shows that woman of 65 now have an expectation of life of 15 years compared with 11 years at the beginning of the century. For men the expectation is 12 years as compared with 10 in 1900. The most striking reductions in the death rates were in those aged under 45, especially *in children aged one-four* (96 per cent). Dr Scott says that London's population is even more "out of balance" than that of England and Wales generally. In 1955, 1,755,000 of London's total population 3,295,000 were women, an excess of 215,000 or 6.5 per cent of which nearly half (101,000) were women aged 65 or more.

TV series for elderly

By Kenneth Gosling

A regular weekly magazine television programme for older people is to be shown at peak time on Channel Four. An Edinburgh film company has been commissioned to produce it.

Many of the items will be written by older people and the accent will be on audience participation. The series of 40-minute programmes forms part of Channel Four's weekly seven hours of education output.

Naomi McIntosh, the channel's *senior commissioning editor for* education, said there would be a specific commitment to the over 60s. "If we succeed, it will become a vital source of information as well as entertainment", she said.

Mr Stephen Clark-Hall, the series producer, said the programmes would provide a platform for a large and much *neglected section* of the community.

Over the next few months, his company, Sidhartha Films, will be holding discussions about the content of the programmes, look for presenters and ask for people's help in choosing an appropriate title.

Moreover ... Miles Kington

One-day cricket mania is sweeping Australia ... beer cans flew, drunks fought, and women bared their breasts *Sydney Sun*

LAST MAN IN
A modern cricket story for boys
(Sponsored by Third Man aftershave)

"Middle and leg, please", said Jack.

"Find it your flaming self", said the umpire.

Jack felt sick. Nine wickets down, and he was the last man in for England. There were 624 runs still to get, and only 10 minutes in which to get them. Could he do it? *Jack felt sick.*

He gave himself guard and looked round the field. The Australian fielders snarled back and continued throwing lager cans to each other; the dying evening sun glinted on the ring pulls which littered the outfield but the light was still good enough to read the advertisements tattooed on their chests. Jack glanced at the enormous electronic scoreboard. It said: "Miss Australia Lager will commence her streak in five minutes time".

"Play!" called the umpire.

The ground trembled slightly as the Australian fast bowler started his run-up. He was a tall man, heavily built but smelling elegantly of Third Man aftershave, with pistol holsters dangling on both sides. As he ran past the umpire something fell from his pocket to the round. It looked like a bottle of Australian wine. Nuits St Bruce.

"No ball!" shrieked the umpire.

A red blur flew from the bowler's hand, struck the pitch and reared up to hit Jack on his All-Round Vision Plexiglass Space Helmet. Jack sank into unconsciousness, and moments later woke up in his comfy bed in Stevenage New Town, his teddy bear in his hand and his British Home Stores duvet on the floor, where he had kicked it in his sleep. Thank God, it had all been a *dream!*

"Wake up", said the umpire, leaning over him. Jack opened his eyes. Oh my God! It was Stevenage that had been the dream. It was Sydney Cricket Ground that was real.

"623 to get, and eight more minutes, you pommy bastard", said the umpire, not unkindly.

The fielders were shouting raucous insults at him in a foreign language now, Australian probably, and the first flakes of snow were beginning to fall. Small earth tremors had made cracks in the outfield, which would make boundaries harder to get. This time the fast bowler approached the wicket on a *500cc motor cicycle*; amazingly Jack managed to get an edge and the ball flew past extra cover.

"Run up, you chaps!" called the English captain from the pavilion steps. He was felled by a well aimed beer barrel. But Jack and his partner were running well between the wickets, for the Australian fielders, hopelessly drunk by now, were unable to focus enough to find the ball. By the time they had run 400 runs, the stumps had been thrown *down three times, but only* by lager cans.

Ten minutes later, with time added on to complete the ball played, England had run all 623 runs and had won a famous victory. As Jack left the pitch he raised his bat, partly in triumph, partly to fend off the crowd who were closing in on him. Later he was given the Man of the Match title. It had never been awarded posthumously before.

Academy to launch appeal for funds

By Our Arts Correspondent

The Royal Academy of Arts is to launch a public appeal for funds in June in an attempt to secure its future against financial collapse.

Announcing the move, Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Academy, said yesterday it needed another £500,000 a year. The academy does not receive an Arts Council grant, unlike the national museums and galleries. This year it is facing a deficit of £400,000, compared with a surplus of about £400,000 last year, which was made possible by the success of the Impressionists' exhibition.

Sir Hugh said the academy was confident the appeal would have great response. "People have an extraordinary affection and respect for the RA even if they think it is a stuffy and dotty old dump. I am confident the appeal will rescue us".

The Royal Academy faces not only heavy running costs, which have increased from £50,000 20 years ago to £700,000 in 1981, but also the need to repair the fabric of Burlington House. Sir Hugh happily informed journalists at a press conference that the floor was unsafe.

In its plans for the coming year, the Royal Academy will present the Burlington House Fair, from March 11 to 21, at which paintings jewelery owned by the Royal Family are to go on display. The fair, to be opened by Princess Margaret, will include the royal treasures in a display called Connoisseurship and Collecting.

It will also have on sale items, valued at £50m, sent by 60 of Britain's dealers.

The academy's 214th annual *Summer Exhibition will run from* May 15, with a new £5,000 prize offered by Johnson's Wax for the most distinguished work.

Describing the exhibitin, Mr Anthony Green, a member of the hanging committee, said: "I urge the faint-hearted, especially the young, to send us their best work, and we will try very hard to hang it. We will get some angelic pictures, some interesting pictures and some absolute swines. But the difference between the angelic and the swinish is just a hair's breadth".

Later in the year, the academy will present aan exhibition of contemporary art from India, as part of the Festival of India. There will also be an important exhibition of Neapolitan painting from Caravaggio to Giordano, treasures of ancient Nigeria, Murillo, and painting in Holland, 1800 to 1860.

University news

Oxford
Elections

ST HUGH'S COLLEGE: Honorary fellowship: Mrs Margaret B. Chitty MA, CMG; professorial fellowship: I. Z. Mackenzie MA (MD Bristol), clinical reader in obstetrics and gynaelogy.

Birmingham
Appointment

Senior lecturer: Mr Frank Gill (Institute of Occuptional Health) who will be responsible for occupational hygiene.

OBITUARY

MR C. C. OMAN

Authority on historic silverware

Mr C. C. Oman, Keeper of Metalwork at the Victoria and Albert Museum 1945-66, *died at his home after a short* illness on January 26. He was 80.

Charles Chichele Oman, the only son among the three children of the distinguished historian Sir Charles Oman, was born on June 5, 1901. His second name — of which he disapproved — was that of the medieval Archbishop of Canterbury, Henry Chichele, founder of All Souls College, of which his father was a Fellow at the time of his birth.

After education at Winchester and New College, he studied the medieval topography of the Roman Campagna at the British School at Rome before joining the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1924 as an assistant keeper in the department of engraving, illustration and design (now prints and drawings). He remained in this department for only a year, but, with the energy and application that were so characteristic of him, was nevertheless able to do the basic work on his first book, published in 1929, a catalogue of the museum's collection of early wallpapers. In 1925 he moved to the department of metalwork, which was then only about 15 years old, under its second keeper, H. P. Mitchell, and it was here that he found his true vocation, eventually becoming one of the world's leading authorities on the history of decorative metalwork in the West from the Middle Ages onwards.

The 12 books and monographs and the 130 or so articles he published on the subject during his lifetime (the last one as recently as 1980) reveal how very wide-ranging his knowledge of it was, but it is as an authority on goldsmiths' work, especially jewelry, Spanish silver and, above all, British silver, that he is best known. His *English Domestic Silver*, first published in 1933, has since gone through many editions and still remains the basic textbook, while *English Church Plate* (1957) — much of the preliminary work for which was carried out by bicycle — is a major pioneering study that is never likely to be superseded. Other notable books are *The English Silver in the Kremlin 1557-1663* (1961) — the result of the first critical examination of this collection by any Briton for over 50 years — *Caroline Silver 1625-1688* (1971), *British Rings* (1974) and *English Engraved Silver 1150-1900* (1978).

Oman greatly admired H. P. Mitchell, but had served under him for only about 6 months when he died in 1926. He then found himself in the frustrating position of working under two successive keepers *who had no real* interest in building up the museum's collection of goldsmiths' work, and he saw many important pieces lost to the nation without being able to do anything about it. Only after the Second World War (during which he was seconded to the Ministry of War Transport) did he really come into his own.

In 1945 he was appointed keeper of metalwork, and from then until his retirement in 1966 he was able both to reorganize the metalwork collections and make many important additions to them: it should be placed on record also that the spectacular gift of the late Dame Joan Evans's entire collection of jewelry in 1975, though made after his retirement, was largely because of her long-standing friendship with him.

Oman, who had a deep love of English historic buildings, and especially churches and cathedrals, was unusual among museum officials of his generation in realizing that the conservation responsibilities of museums extend far beyond their walls. He was actively involved with the work of the Council for the Care of Churches and with the London Goldsmiths' Company, of which he became a Liveryman in 1946, as well as with the Royal Archaeological Institute, *the* Silver Society, the Society of Jewellery Historians and a number of other learned bodies. It was his concern about the future of the important plate kept in so many English churches (usually out of public sight) that gave him the idea of setting up Treasuries in the cathedrals where diocesan plate and other treasures could be displayed, and he was *successful* in *obtaining* the generous support of the Goldsmiths' Company for it. He remained actively involved in this project until the end of his life and the 15 Treasuries that now exist form the best possible of monuments to his memory.

As a child and young man Oman had been overshadowed by the powerful personality of his father, while he was made miserably unhappy at his two schools, as his sister Carola's *An Oxford Childhood* recounts. His reserve and inability to indulge in social small-talk, coupled with a slight stammer, which strangers sometimes found intimidating, was no doubt the result of this early ill treatment. In fact, he was the most kindhearted and gentle of people, with a dry sense of humour, always willing to share his *great* knowledge, not only of his specialities, but also of a wide variety of subjects, including gardening which, with European travel, was his main relaxation. He was much loved by those who knew him well.

In 1929 Oman married Joan Trevelyan, who died in 1973. He is survived by a daughter and a son.

MR ARNOLD HECKLE

M.J.M. writes:

Mr Arnold Heckle, CMG, who was well known over many years to British companies exporting to, and having subsidiaries in, Canada died on January 18 at his home in St Sauveur-des-Monts, Quebec, Canada.

He was born and educated *in Warrington and despite* spending much of his career in the Midlands (he was Regional Controller, Board of Trade, during the war years), in Whitehall and then *overseas, he never lost his* superb facility with gaffer and dialect stories.

From 1952 he was the Principal British Trade *Commissioner in Montreal* until his retirement from the Foreign Service in 1968 — an unprecedented spell broken by just three years in Johannesburg. Of immense value to British exporters, he built up the widest range of business, financial and political contacts in eastern Canada, aided immeasurably by his French Canadian wife, Monique.

On retirement he became chairman and president of *Rubery Owen Canada Ltd* and North American director of the Wolverhampton group. His wide experience led to other directorships with Canadian subsidiaries of British corporations.

His immaculate, youthful and dapper appearance at all times — in the office, golfing or fishing, quite belied his years and most will be astonished that he was 75 years old.

He was made CMG in 1964.

Sir Maurice Adams, KBE, FICE, Civil *Engineer-in-Chief*, Admiralty, 1954-59, died on January 23 in Cape Town. He was 80.

Lady Wingate, widow of *Sir Ronald Wingate*, Bt, CB, CMG, CIE, died on January 7 at the age of 90. Her husband died in 1978.

Law Report January 29 1982 Court of Appeal

Canadian Indians lose treaties case

Regina v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Ex Parte Indian Association of Alberta and Another

Before Lord Denning Master of the Rolls Lord Justice Kerr and Lord Justice May

[Judgment delivered January 28]

The rights and obligations of the Crown in relation to the Indian peoples of Canada under treaties made since 1752 and by Royal Proclamation of 1763, have devolved from the Crown in right of the United Kingdom to the Crown in right of the Dominion or the Provinces of Canada.

The Court of Appeal, in reserved judgments, dismissed applications by the Indian Association of Alberta and the Unions of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Indians for declarations (i) that the decision of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs that all treaty obligations entered into by the Crown with the Indian peoples of Canada became the responsibility of the Government of Canada with the attainment of independence, at the latest with the Statute of Westminster 1931, was wrong *in law*; and *(ii) that* treaty and other obligations entered into by the Crown to the Indian peoples of Canada were still owed by her Majesty in right of her Government in the United Kingdom.

The applicants' appeal from Mr Justice Wolf (*The Times*, December 10, 1981) was dismissed.

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC and Mr Richard Drabble for the applicants; Mr Robert Alexander, QC and Mr Simon D. Brown for the secretary of state; Mr Andrew Morritt, QC and Mr Peter Irvin for Canada.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in 1763 the King of England by Royal Proclamation gave solemn assurances to the Indian peoples of Canada, which had for the most part been honoured ever since. But now the Indian peoples felt that the assurances were in danger of being dishonoured.

They were anxious about the Canada Bill now before Parliament under which there was to be a new constitution for Canada. The Indian peoples felt that, if the Bill was passed, their rights and freedoms would be in peril.

They had not *gone to the* Canadian courts but had come to the courts here.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office had told the foreign affairs committee of the House of Commons that all relevant treaty obligations to the Indians in Canada had become the responsibility of the Government of Canada with the attainment of independence, at the latest with the Statute of Westminster 1931.

The Indian peoples of Canada had been there from the beginning of time. They were called the "aboriginal peoples".

They had their chiefs and headmen to regulate their simple societies and to enforce their customs. In early societies custom was the basis of law.

Those customary laws were not written down but handed down by tradition *from one generation* to another. They had the force of law within the community.

When the English went overseas in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries they went as representatives of the Crown. It was of first importance to pay great respect to the laws and customs of *the* indigenous peoples. It was the responsibility of the Crown, and those representing the Crown, to see that the rights of indigenous people were secured and that they were not imposed upon: see *Warren Hastings' Impeachment, 1788 (2 Phillipps & Arnold on Evidence* 10th edition, 1852, p156).

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries it was a settled *doctrine of constitutional* law that the Crown was one and indivisible. The colonies formed one realm with the United Kingdom under the sovereignty of the Crown.

In 1763 after the French had surrendered all the rights which they had previously held in Canada by the Treaty of Paris, the Crown made a solemn proclamation.

Detailed assurances were given by which the Crown bound itself to reserve "under our Sovereignty, Protection and Dominion" all the lands and territories reserved to them.

The Royal Proclamation of 1763 was regarded as of high constitutional importance in Canada. It was ranked by the Indian peoples as their Bill of Rights. Lord Mansfield regarded it as binding as a statute: see *Campbell v Hall* ((1774) 1 Cowp 204).

The Royal Proclamation of 1763 was equivalent to an entrenched provision of the constitution of the colonies in North America which could not be abrogated by any of the Canadian legislatures. It was binding on the Crown "so long as the sun rises and the river flows". See what was said in the Supreme Court in Canada in *Calder v Attorney General of British Columbia* ((1973) 34 DLR (3d) 145, 203).

The 1763 proclamation governed the position of the Indian peoples for the next 100 years at least. It still governed their position throughout Canada except where it had been *supplemented or superseded by a* treaty with the Indians. It was still the basis of the rights of the aboriginals in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick: see *R v Isaac* in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia in 1975 (9 APR 175).

But the proclamation, like other Bills of Rights was wanting in particularity.

The British North America Act 1867 declared that the executive authority over Canada continued to be vested in the Crown. It set up a Dominion Parliament with its own legislative powers and exclusive power to legislate for "Indians, and land reserved for the Indians". The 1867 Act could not be altered either by the Dominion Parliament or by the provincial legislatures.

The Crown of the United Kingdom was then regarded as still the Crown of the *Dominion and Provinces of Canada. It was* one Crown, single and indivisible. *St Catherine's Milling and Lumber Co v The Queen* ((1888) 14 AC 46) showed the importance of the treaties made with the Indian peoples.

The British North America Act 1930 seemed to his Lordship to recognize that the Crown had subsisting obligations to the Indians under the treaties. The indivisibility of the Crown was changed in the first half of the present century by constitutional *usage and practice. The Crown* became separate and divisible according to the particular territory in which it was sovereign.

The obligations which were previously binding on the Crown *simpliciter* were now to be treated as divided. They were to be confined to the dominion or province or territory to which they related.

The Statute of Westminster *gave considerable independence* to the dominions but by section 7(1) nothing in the Act was to be deemed to apply to the repeal or alteration of the British North America Acts 1867 to 1930 and the Dominion Parliament had no such power. The Dominion of Canada was not completely independent in strict constitutional law: it could not alter one jot or tittle of those Acts.

By section 40(2)(c) of the Crown Proceedings Act 1947 in order for proceedings to be brought against the Crown, the liability of the Crown must be one "in respect of her Majesty's Government in the United *Kingdom*".

Now that the Crown was *separate and divisible*, the obligations under the proclamations and the treaties were obligations in respect of the Crown in Canada and not of the Crown in respect of the United Kingdom. The only recourse of the Indian peoples was in the courts of Canada.

The Canada Bill was designed to give complete independence to Canada. No longer would the United Kingdom Parliament have *any power to pass any law* relating to Canada. A new constitution was set out for Canada to be enacted by the United Kingdom Parliament. It contained a Charter of Rights and Freedoms with specific guarantees to the *aboriginal* peoples.

They should be honoured by the Crown in respect of Canada "so long as the sun rises and the river flows".

LORD JUSTICE KERR, agreeing, said that the applicants were not asserting any breach of any of the obligations on the part of the Crown. The relevant agreements with the Indian peoples, known as "treaties", were not treaties in the sense of public international law: they were not treaties between sovereign states.

As stated in *Halsbury's Laws of England*, 4th ed, vol 6 (1974), par 820, her Majesty's Government in a colony was to be regarded as distinct from her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

The government of a dominion was clearly in an *a fortiori* position. Further, as *Halsbury* stated, "the liabilities of the Crown in right of, or under the laws of, one of the Crown's territories can be satisfied only out of the revenues, and by the authority of the legislature, of that territory".

Attorney General v Great Southern and Western Railway of Ireland ([1925] AC 754) was an important illustration of that principle.

The 1867 Act and its *successors up to the Statute of* Westminster 1931 created an all embracing federal structure for Canada.

The entire devolution of the rights and obligations in relation to the Indian peoples of Canada from the Crown in right of the United Kingdom to the Crown in right of the Dominion or Provinces of Canada was confirmed by numerous Canadian enactments, both Federal and *Provincial*.

The question whether the *situs* of rights and obligations of the Crown was to be found in right or respect of the United Kingdom, or of other governments within those parts of the Commonwealth of which her Majesty was the ultimate sovereign had nothing to do with whether those governments were wholly independent or not. The rights and obligations of the Crown would arise exclusively in right of a government outside the United Kingdom as soon as it could be seen that there was an established government of the Crown in the overseas territory in question. That had happened in relation to Canada.

LORD JUSTICE MAY, also agreeing, said that although there was only one person who was sovereign within the British Commonwealth, it was now a truism that in matters of law and government the Queen of the United Kingdom was entirely independent and distinct from the Queen of Canada.

That the duties and liabilities of the Crown in right of the United Kingdom *in respect* of another territory within the Commonwealth should devolve upon the Crown in right of that territory as the latter attained its own legislature, and its own revenue and consolidated fund, was merely a natural consequence of progress to self-government and independence.

Any treaty or other obligation which the Crown entered into with the Indian peoples of *Canada in right* of the United Kingdom had become the responsibility of the Government of Canada at the latest with the Statute of Westminster.

The treaties prior to 1763 were merely articles of submission by Indians who *had been engaging* in hostilities against the British Crown.

R v Isaac was authority for the existence of an aboriginal or Canadian common-law right possessed by Indians to hunt and fish over their lands. But it was a right given against the Crown in right of Canada and not in right of the United Kingdom.

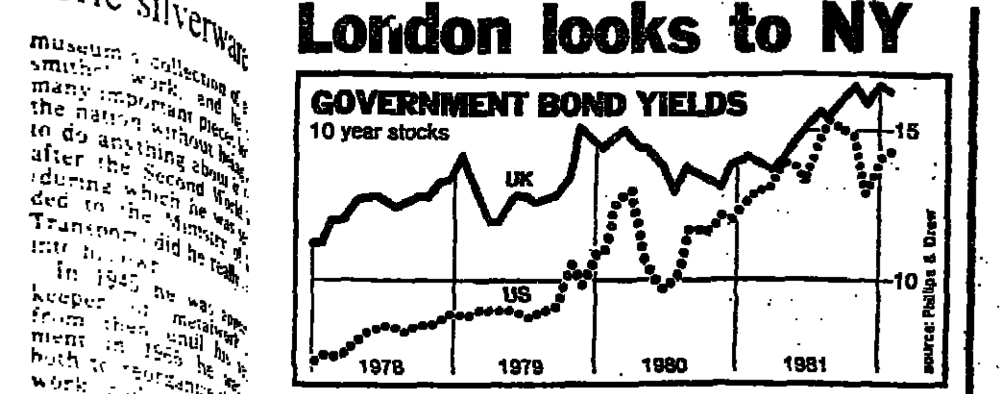
As a matter of construction, section 7 of *the Statute* of Westminster did retain a limited sovereignty of the Crown in right of the United Kingdom.

But that did not mean that any treaty or other obligation of the Crown with its Indian peoples of Canada enured against the Crown in the United Kingdom.

Solicitors: Radcliffes; Treasury Solicitor; Linklaters and Paines.

BUSINESS NEWS

London looks to NY



Government bonds is another area where, since the abolition of United Kingdom exchange controls, the behaviour of the London market has come to depend more and more on what happens in New York, the London market moving into second phase trading during the afternoon once United States markets have opened. Yesterday, the London market was further boosted by news that the Bank of England had refused to issue its new index-linked stock on a real yield of higher than 3.05 per cent — a price of £90 per cent.

Scrutiny for yen financing

The Export Credits Guarantee Department is studying two applications for cover of finance denominated in yen. If granted, the cover would be the first under the consenus interest rates agreed last October, and British exporters could offer customers cheaper credit than is available in sterling.

Japan has agreed to allow the export of yen to finance what are expected to be mainly credits for buyers of British and American goods. The United States Export-Import Bank is also studying yen credits.

It is understood however that the Japanese Ministry of Finance has limited Japanese banks to a total of between 10,000m and 20,000m yen. The ministry is concerned that too large a capital outflow would depreciate the yen.

CEGB sites named

Seven sites suitable for the development of Britain's combined heat and power stations have been identified by the Central Electricity Generating Board. The sites, which are meant to serve the six leading cities identified by the Department of Energy, are Barking for London, Agecroft and Carrington for Manchester, Fiddler's Ferry for Merseyside, Dunston for Newcastle, Neepsend for Sheffield, and Leicester.

Setback for DRG

Bristol-based DRG, the packaging and stationery group, revealed yesterday that profits at its 70 per cent owned South African subsidiary, which account for a quarter of total profits, could be halved as a result of reporting discrepancies.

The company said it had discovered discrepancies between stated selling and actual selling prices in goods sold to South African schools and colleges.

At least one manager has been dismissed.

Brazil in cocoa deal

Brazilian bankers are expecting to complete loan negotiations with the International Cocoa Organisation buffer stock before the next ICCO meeting in March, Sir Angelo Calmon de Sa, president of the Brazilian Banco Economico, said yesterday. Brazilian banks have offered to lend the buffer stock between $75m and $120m. But agreement has been delayed by consuming member resistance to raising the levy on members. A higher levy is necessary to pay interest on the loan. Some European banks have expressed interest in lending to the ICCO.

Recession claims 1,230 more jobs

By Clive Cookson

Four companies in the engineering, tyre and carpet industries gave the Government a sharp reminder of the harsh trading conditions that still face British businesses. As the Cabinet held its crucial discussion yesterday on future economic policy, the companies announced a total of 1,230 redundancies.

But employees of the Christie-Tyler furniture company have averted job losses at its eight factories in South Wales by accepting pay cuts of up to 10 per cent. They were told that hundreds of redundancies would be necessary unless costs were cut and productivity improved.

While public attention in Belfast yesterday was focused on the future of the De Lorean car plant, 400 workers were declared redundant at one of the city's best known engineering companies. The jobs will disappear between now and the end of April at the textile factories run by the 140-year-old family firm of James Mackie and Sons.

Mackie's workforce will be run down to 1,300. Little more than a year ago it employed 3,000 people. Management and unions have agreed to approach the Government jointly for special consideration, in the hope of avoiding even more redundancies — a difficult move for a proud firm that has previously shunned state "charity".

Carpets International announced a complete reorganization of its British manufacturing operations, which will mean the closure of two mills — Dean Clough, Halifax, and New Road, Kidderminster — and the loss of more than 500 jobs.

The company said the severe market recession in the United Kingdom made the measures "essential to consolidate the trend towards restoration of group profitability". In contrast, exports are doing well.

Similarly Avon Rubber quoted "the need to cut operating costs to withstand severe trading conditions" in the tyre market as the reason for making 250 people redundant at its main factory in Melksham, Wiltshire.

Avon said the redundancies would affect all categories of employees — staff, engineers and rubber workers — though individual notices would be sent out only after full consultation with the four unions involved.

The Peterborough engineering company Peter Brotherhood said it had reluctantly decided to cut the workforce by 80 because "no early end to the recession can be anticipated". More ominously for the future, Brotherhood is also considering a significant cut in its apprentice training scheme.


Mr Nigel Lawson, Energy Secretary, arriving at yesterday's Cabinet meeting

Big tax cuts unlikely in Budget

By Frances Williams

The Cabinet met yesterday to consider its options for the Budget on March 9, but the Chancellor has little room for big tax cuts and other concessions if he sticks to the outline of his medium term financial strategy (MTFS), according to City analysts.

The version of the plan published last March envisaged public sector borrowing falling from 4¼ per cent of national output in 1981-82 to 3¾ per cent in 1982-83. This would imply a public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) of £9,000m in the coming financial year, compared with about £10,500m this year.

Treasury calculations are thought to show that the £9,000m PSBR target is well within reach. Buoyant tax revenues due to higher than expected inflation, the proceeds of North Sea asset sales (put at between £500m and £1,500m), and £1,000m of taxes due in 1981-82 but not collected because of the civil servants' dispute, will more than outweigh higher public spending.

The Treasury's sums assume that the Chancellor will this year reactivate the so called Rooker-Wise amendment which obliges him to raise personal tax allowances in line with inflation. Sir Geoffrey Howe's failure to do this in the last Budget meant a rise in the real tax burden on incomes.

The sums also assume that he will index-link excise duties on drink and tobacco, which will bring in extra revenue.

In addition, however, the Chancellor has room to give away about £1,000m in extra tax cuts while remaining within the £9,000m borrowing target. This would just about offset the 1 per cent rise in national insurance contributions announced in December which are due to come into effect in April.

If the Chancellor wanted to genuflect in the direction of Tory "wets" who are demanding reflation, he could opt for a slightly higher PSBR — up to about £10,500m — and still stick to the spirit of the MTFS by keeping the PSBR falling as a percentage of national output. This would provide a further £1,000m to £1,500m for tax cuts.

The maximum reflation permitted by the MTFS, however, amounts to no more than 1 per cent of national output and would have a correspondingly limited impact on output and employment.

In broad terms, each £1,000m the Chancellor has to give away would buy a 1p cut in the basic rate of income tax or a 1 percentage point reduction in VAT, or a 1 percentage point cut in the employers' National Insurance Surcharge.

Governor defends Bank role

By John Whitmore

Fresh from his recent success in warding off the Hongkong & Shangai Banking Corporation's attempt to gain control of the Royal Bank of Scotland, Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, last night spoke up strongly in support of the Bank's role at the heart of the United Kingdom banking system.

After saying that the wide measure of self-regulation and voluntary agreement which underpinned the vigour of our financial system could not be taken for granted he said "the customary authority of the Bank, exercised steadily and in rational discussion — not by mysterious ocular contortions on my part — is vital to this underpinning. That is why I have done my best to uphold it".

Speaking to the Finance Houses Association, the Governor also emphasized the need for a flexible but firm approach to monetary policy.

He said that flexibility of approach had become associated with the now well-known fact that policy has regard to a number of indicators, including the exchange rate, rather than to any single monetary aggregate.

"Although this might give the impression that policy lacked coherence, I would suggest that the steadiness and consistency of our behaviour in pursuit of the ultimate objectives of policy is more important that the apparent intellectual coherence and presentational simplicity of concentration on a single monetary aggregate," he said.

Mr Richardson added that he thought it would be accepted that the general stance of policy, fiscal as well as monetary, was firm. There was confidence that a more progmatic approach had not meant a weak one. It was essential that this confidence should be preserved.

The Governor reiterated the danger of too much mortgage lending slipping though into consumer expenditure. But he welcomed the competition between banks and building societies as leading to a more efficient service in the provision of housing finance.

Mr John Little, chairman of the Finance Houses Association, said that he expected FHA members to have ended 1981 with record outstanding balances of over £10,000m (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).

EIU backs Treasury production claim

By Our Economics Staff

Treasury claims that a productivity revolution may be under way are backed today in a report from the Economist Intelligence Unit, the independent forecasting organization.

The report says there is mounting evidence that the underlying growth of productivity has risen during the present recession, especially in manufacturing industry. By the third quarter of 1981 productivity had bounced back to previous peak levels before the recession began in spring 1979, at a much lower level of output than at the same point during the 1974-76 recession.

Productivity tends to fall in a recession as output falls faster than jobs are lost. But last year productivity began to rise while output was still falling. "This experience is unprecedented in the past 20 years", the Treasury said in the January issue of *Economic Progress Report.*

Latest official figures show that output per man hour in manufacturing rose by nearly 8 per cent between the end of 1980 and the third quarter of 1981, to stand 3½ per cent above the previous peak in 1979.

The authors of the EIU report, Paul Ormerod and Paul Capella, concede that part of the gains may be eroded as the economy begins to recover and fear of productivity growth in manufacturing could now be 2½ per cent a year, compared with 1½ per cent over most of the 1970s.

The report uses the Treasury's model of the economy, assuming unchanged government policies, to look at the effects of this higher productivity growth. It would lead to a big cut in inflation — down to 5.4 per cent in 1985 compared with 8.8 per cent on the low productivity assuption — and boost company finances.

It would also give a fillip to economic growth, partly through greater international competitiveness, with gross domestic product nearly 2.5 per cent higher than otherwise by 1985.

EEC states its steel case

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Jan 28

The European Commission has been putting its case against the anti-dumping suits launched at European steelmakers by United States steel companies in the hope of influencing the opinion of the Department of Commerce in Washington.

The department is due to publish its views on the anti-dumping action on February 1 before a three-day hearing on the issue later next week at the International Trade Commission in Washington.

Officials from the Commission and the Commerce Department met in Geneva yesterday and it is understoood that the Europeans repeated the EEC's view that European steel exports to the United States are not the cause of the American steel industy's problems. The talks were described as cordial and constructive by American diplomatic sources. The United States has offered to continue the consultations under the terms of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) and yesterday assured the EEC representatives that the investigations will be carried out with scrupulous regard for United States law.

However, this is of little comfort to European steelmakers who risk having to pay anti-dumping or countervailing duties on exports to the United States if the American complaints are eventually upheld. The complaints are therefore acting as a deterrent to EEC steel exports to the United States.

Home loans linked to prices index

By Lorna Bourke

A home loan scheme launched yesterday offers mortgages at only 10 per cent, but the sting is that the loan is index-linked and rises in line with the house prices index.

The Building Trust, an unauthorized unit trust, announced its new index-linked mortgage scheme yesterday and already has some £60m worth or preliminary requests for loans in the pipeline.

Loans of up to four times the applicants' earnings are offered at a rate of two-thirds the quoted building society rate, which currently works out at 10 per cent. But half the original sum borrowed is linked to changes in the house prices index or, to put it another way, the entire loan will rise at half the rate of house price inflation. If house prices double over the next 10 years, the original sum borrowed goes up by 50 per cent.

Heron suffers ACC bid setback

By Philip Robinson and Paul Maidment

Mr Gerald Ronson has failed in his first attempt to prise open the "shut out" bid by Australian financier Mr Robert Holmes à Court for Lord Grade's old empire, Associated Communications Corporation. But he succeeded in further denying Mr Holmes à Court a quick victory for his £36m bid this week with the posting of his formal offer document.

Mr Ronson's Heron Corporation, which has bid £46m forthe group, has been attempting to block through a High Court action the critical share transfers between ACC directors and Mr Holmes à Court.

In court yesterday, Mr Justice Vinelott, after hearing three days of evidence, refused to grant Heron an injuction preventing the transfer of the shares.

Heron argued that the transfers should not go ahead because the ACC directors had not complied with their own Articles of Association and had breached their fiduciary.

But the judge said the articles did permit such a transfer and added: "The ACC directors had been faced with a situation in which the cash available to the company in the short term without a sale of assets or long term borrowing was insufficient to meet outgoings. It seems to me wholly understandable that directors in that situation would decide that they could not afford to call Mr Holmes a Court's bluff without possibly damaging consequeces."

The judge said it would be wrong to grant injunctions on the main grounds put forward by Heron. Having regard to ACC's financial position the granting of injunctions to remain in force until a full trial could do irreparable damage to the company, he said.

But Mr Justice Vinelott found that the legal document relating to ACC's arrangement with the Independent Broadcasting Authority over the future of the 51 per cent stake in Central Independent Television was not valid because the ACC directors should not have voted on it at a board meeting.

Last night, ACC snnounced it would convene a special shareholders' meeting to authorize the deed which is critical to whether Mr Holmes à Court can go through with his bid, which needs IBA approval.

ACC were meeting last night before Mr Holmes a Court was due to leave for Australia. It is believed he will be away for a few weeks.

Meanwhile, Heron is virtually certain to appeal. If it does it may bee joined by two other ACC shareholders: the Birmingham Post Group, BPM holdings and Anglo-International Investment trust, part of the financial arm of European Ferries.

BPM Holdings has 7,500 voting shares and 456,000 non-voting shares. I was invited to join Heron on Wednesday and accepted the offer yesterday morning. Mr Geoffrey Battman, BPM director, said yesterday: "We were appealed to by Heron last night. We have told them that even if they succeed in opening up the bid, we would not necessarily accept their offer."

MARKET SUMMARY

Gilts manage late rally

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 573.8 up 4.9
FT Gilts 64.65 up 0.40
FT all-share 326.28 down 0.14
Bargains 19,194

A strong opening on Wall Street proved a late boost to equities, which drifted down throughout the day but closed up 4.9 at 573.8.

Gilts rallied after a hesitant start to close as much as £¾ higher in long dates and £⅜-£¼ better for short-dated issues.

This was after news that all tenders for Treasury £750m 2½ per cent index-linked stock £90 paid and above had been allotted in full.

Elsewhere, Irish shares were marked down in early trading on the fall of the government but they closed above the worst. **Bank of Ireland** lost 15p to 228p, and **Allied Irish Bank** 4p to 86p but **Guinness** was up 1p at 71p.

Leading industrials ended mixed with some gains after the strong opening on Wall Street. **Glaxo** recovered from the previous day's losses up 2p at 480p while **ICI** was also better at 340p, up 4p.

Engineer and contractor **Babcock** was in demand and closed up 4p at 96p after substantial buying and the prospect of a bid. The brewing sector was depressed by a statement from the chairman of **Bass**, who told the group's annual meeting that a three-week strike and bad weather would hit profits in the present half year. Bass ended the day 4p lower at 210p.

Other leading brewery shares were initially marked down but recovered later with leaders **Whitbread** up 1p at 99p and **Allied Lyons** also 1p ahead at 74½p.

Meanwhile, at international meat trader **Thomas Borthwick's** annual meeting shareholders were also given a dismal picture of trading although the chairman noted that the company was set on a course to return to profit. The shares shed 1p to 16p.

Two market rumours were dispelled with **Midland Bank** denying rumours of a rights issue to cover its Crocker acquisition and the chairman of **Ranks Hovis McDougall** saying the group was not making any takeover moves.

He added that RHM was not interested in bidding for Huntley & Palmer and in a comment on the group's 10.5 per cent stake in British Sugar said it was a profitable and strategic investment.

Midland Bank shares were down 5p at 345p while **RHM** were up ½p at 68½p.

ACC shares were nervous and fell 3p to 73p ahead of the High Court findings on the Heron bid with a further 3p fall to 70p on hearing the outcome.

Unexciting figures left **Fitch Lovell** and **Inchcape** unchanged at 75p and 318p respectively, but further consideration of figures earlier in the week brought gains of 7p to **Eurotherm** at 309p and 4p to **Allied Textiles** at 193p.

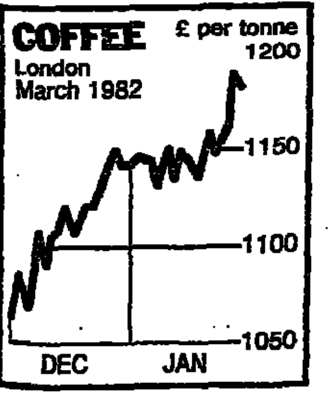
Disappointing news knocked 6p from **Wiggins Construction** at 88p while gloomy news from the South African subsidiary clipped 6p from **Dickensin Robinson Group** at 72p.

Grand Metropolitan has rejected suggestions that it may follow the sale of its provincial UK hotels with the disposal of the United States tobacco interest of Liggett. The shares were up 2p at 199p.

Gareth David

COMMODITIES

● After a strong rally earlier in the week coffee fell back yesterday in fairly quiet trading. The March contract closed at £1,183.50 a tonne.



● Tin also eased, the cash contract closing at £8,655 a tonne, down £117.50 during the day. But the backwardation with the three months contracts, which finished £3 lower at £8,027.50, remain wide. High prices are reported to have dettered consumers from using the market.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,398.30 down 6.93
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 7,903.85 down 22.70

CURRENCIES

● The pound met steady demand in a quiet market. The dollar, too, was generally quietly firm.

STERLING $1.8720, up 45 pts
Index 91.6, up 0.3
DM 4.36
Fr.F 11.085
Yen 433
DOLLAR Index 110.2, up 0.4
DM 2.3270, up 78 points
GOLD $383.75, up $2.25

MONEY MARKETS

● Rates were little changed. The Bank bought £275m. of bills at 13⅞% in response to a forecast shortage of £250m.

Domestic Rates:
Base rates 14 per cent
3 month interbank 14⅝-14½

Euro-Currency Rates:
3 month dollar 14 13/16-15 1/16
3 month DM 10 5/16-10 3/16
3 month Fr.F 15⅝-15⅝

TODAY

Sales and orders in engineering industry
Car and commercial vehicle production
Sir Michael Edwardes at Newspaper Society lunch, London

Public complaints over policies

Attack on Volcker stepped up

From Bailey Morris, Washington Jan 28

The Reagan Administration is escalating its attack against the Federal Reserve Board and Mr Paul Volcker its independent chairman, blaming both for the econimic ills besetting the United States.

Over the past two weeks, President Reagan and his key cabinet officials have complained publicly about Mr Volcker's policies but the sharpest attack came yesterday from Mr Donald Regan, The Treasury Secretary.

Mr Regan was highly critical of the Central Bank's policies which he described as "erratic" and responsible for the onset of the deepening United States recession.

In testomony before the joint econimic committee of Congress, Mr Regan said that sharp swings in the money supply resulting from the bank's imprecise monetary controls have unsettled United States businesses and financial markets.

Without a more stable monetary policy, there is little likelihood of a permanent recovery in either United States industrial output or employment growth, Mr Regan claimed.



Volcker: blamed


Regan: critical

His remarks were theclearest indication to date of a growing rift between the White House and Mr Volcker who has held steadfastly to a tight money supply policy as a means of controlling inflation.

Until recently, the Administration and Mr Volcker seemed united in this goal but as the United States economy has soured, the White House appeared to single out the Federal Reserve chairman as a convenient scapegoat.

Meanwhile, Mr Volcker has been making strong statements of his own in which he has accused the administration of failing to take the strong steps necessary to correct the critical problem of soaring federal deficits.

Mr Volcker told congress earlier this week that the real blame for the turmoil in the financial markets must be placed on the Administration which has failed to offset its tax cuts with equivalent spending cuts, thus fuelling fears of massive deficits for the forseeable future.

"Current policies will result in estimated deficits totalling $400,000m over the next three years, Mr Volcker said, predicting prolonged strain and congestion on the financial markets.

"Investors are reluctant to commit funds for any long period of time, fearful that interest rates may not decline and could even rise," Mr Volcker said.

He reiterated his belief that "a restrained and cautious monetary policy will continue to be required" in order to fight inflation which he still views as the number one problem.

MARKS & SPENCER

Price boost for ailing textiles

Statistics on the sad state of the textile industry never reveal one vital figure — the price increase Marks & Spencer is allowing its suppliers (Sally White writes). Industry rumours have it that the suppliers have won a small victory this year, after the 25 per cent rise in M & S's pre-tax profits at the half-way stage.

A rise for M & S suppliers is not only good news for suppliers but is also an indication that the company thinks things are looking better for the consumer. It is believed that a 5 per cent increase is likely to come through in the second half of the year, and will go just a little towards covering costs.

M & S has been doing its best to help the Government in its anti-inflation campaign by forcing suppliers to absorb price increases. But even they acknowledge that synthetic fibres prices rose over 20 per cent last year, and cotton is up too.

The textile industry will be very greatful for any crumbs. Redundancy notices are a weekly event in the North West of England — Tootal have just announced another 600 jobs lost.

Why do Tootal and other textile majors appear among leading brokers' recommendations. The sector rose 16.1 per cent last year more than the FT All Share index. Forecasts for this year see the sector rising.

Wagstaff: Blames Imports

Even M & S allows some concession to the impact of cheap imports, which are the reason for the virtual demise of Britain's textile industry. Their value-added requirments allow a greater proportion on average to arise overseas these days.

Mr Alan Wagstaff, Tootal's top executive, has repeatedly pointed to growth in imports as a cause of redundancies. The group wins approvel, despite its fairly high gearing, and low returns on the 70 per cent of sales, which come from Britain, because it is trying to expand out of here. Australia, the Far East and Africa are bringing in higher profits. Loss makers are bing shed, not only in this country but in the United States.

Tootals strength in a basically safe usiness — thread — is its other merit, apart from the geographical spread.

Other investment pluses are that as a solid leading group, Tootal will rise with the market, and forecasts for the FT indices are bullish. The shares also offer a yield that appeals to the income funds, and especially the high income unit trusts.

While investors may like to see Tootal and its competitors move overseas, M & S is less than keen. It still makes "British made" an important feature of its marketing, and in the clothing field especially it is anxious to see good quality British suppliers thrive.

Apart from its marketing interests, M & S has also always made a point of being socially conscious. For that, as well as sound commercial reasons, M & S wants to encourage capital investment in modern British textile plant.

FNFC try to quit Lifeboat

First National Finance Corporation, the secondary bank built up by Mr Pat Mathews which came unstuck in the fringe banking crisis nearly 10 years ago, has taken another step towards climbing out of the Lifeboat (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).

It still owes the Lifeboat £113m which was lent against its property portfolio and under the terms of the rescue by the clearing banks this has to be repaid before the loan stock due for redemption at the end of this year can be repaid. Accordingly, FNFC is putting a deal to holders of the 1982 9.5 per cent stock whereby they will receive £45 arrears of interest per £100 of stock and receive a new 1987 stock with a 12.5 per cent coupon.

Yesterday's results from FNFC show profits up from £7.66m to £16.6m and the net deficit to shareholders funds reduced from £29.1m to £11.1m. Profits from the consumer credit division were slightly up from £8.4m to £8.9m while the property side has made a £7.69m profit compared with a £773,000 loss from profits on sale of properties above book value and the write-back of provisions on the property side.

City speculates on possible counter bid

Will Allied-Lyons come in with a counter bid for Huntley & Palmer under Rowntree's nose? "To decide on that you have to decide how bloody-minded Sir Keith Showring will be", was an insider's tip from one of the company's followers, Sally White writes. The odds were that he would like to, but not at the present market price of 112p. At 10p below that he might come in, or at 10p above he might sell his stake.

City experts are being wary of Huntley & Palmer. Just before the Rowntree bid 10 out of 11 of the top pundits polled believed that Rowntree would never do a thing like that — the group always avowed it was not interested. So understandly they are being cautious.

Those who now think that Allied-Lyons might bid point to Sir Hector Laing's resignation from the board. As chairman also of United Biscuits, Sir Hector knows the food industry well, and is not thought to be enthusiastic about Huntley & Palmer.

Although it certainly has some good brand names, other aspects of the group draw acerbic comments. As well as the sum required to buy the company, another £50m could be necessary to modernise plant.

Amid the speculation in the City one thing was certain yesterday: that Allied-Lyons had not sold its stake in Huntley & Palmer through the market.

If Sir Keith does sell his stake, a direct approach is likely. A sale through the market would probably have to be at a substantial discount to the present price of shares.

No one yet knows why Rowntree change its mind and bid for Huntley. The stories say the board was split, buy that the "ayes" got it. No one seems convinced that an American contender will materialise. Nor is anyone sure whether the family at Huntley & Palmer will stick with their intention to sell for 120p a share, and no less.

Those brokers who suggested that their clients sell at the present high prices are among the few who are happy with their recommendation.

Conspiracy theories abound. Did someone put around the the story that Allied-Lyons had sold its stake in Huntley & Palmer just to bring the price down. That might suit the market. Equally, it might suit Allied-Lyons. Say the experts:" We are still all up in the air."

● We stated incorrectly yesterday that Jenners of Edinburgh was about to close. Jenners is still trading successfully and remains one of the few large privately owned department stores in the United Kingdom. The House of Fraser Edinburgh store that has announced it would close at the end of this month is Arnotts.

INCHCAPE

Ahead of forecasts midway

Inchcape's international spread of interests, from shipping to trading, have again protected it from the worst effects of the recession.

Pretax profits of £37.7m for the six months to September, although down on last time's £39m, are still some £2m ahead of market forecasts and the group's shares gained 3p to 321p yesterday at the news.

With over three quarters of its profits earned in the Pacific Basin however the group says the recession in the West has now caught up in the South East Asian and Hongkong markets. Inchcape predicts tougher trading conditions ahead.

At the pretax level, results have benefited by some £5m from exchange translation differences. About £1m came from contributions of new acqusitions.

Sales in the period rose substantially by £105m to £895m. After tax of £16.7m against £17m attributable profits are down to £18.3m against £18.4m. Earnings per share now stand at 21.5p from 22.6p. The half-time divideend was again unchanged at 10.2p gross and Lord Inchcape, chairman, is holding out no hope of an increased final.

The group is looking for another currency windfall in the second half so this could push profits up beyond last year's £71m.

HENLEYS

Share price hit

Shares of Henlys, the BL and Talbot dealer, fell a further 3p to 100p yesterday after news of increased losses of nearly £2m.

At this level, they stand 25p below the 125p paid by Mr Jim Gregory, chairman of Queens Park Rangers and the private property company Alton House Holdings, who unsuccessfully tried to pick up 14.4 per cent of the company in a dawn raid in December. Mr Gregory bought only 500,000 shares and is now sitting on a possible paper loss of £125,000.

To make matters worse Henlys has seen losses deepen from last year's level of £378,000 to £1.9m as the recession in the UK car market continues to bite.

Volume during the second half continued to fall in spite of cost-cutting which, in turn, placed added pressure on margins. The total sales figure for the year shows a fall of £1m ot £194.1m.

However, the board has decided to maintain the final dividend of 4.28p gross, making a total for the year of 8.5p.

Trading in the construction equipment division remains difficult, with the group forced to accept a loss on the sale of all remaining used equipment.

However the Rolls-Royce diesel engines side, the car lease operations and the Bordeaux subsidiary, all increased their contributions.

Since the year-end the group has made further property disposals worth an average of £1.5m with a further £5.5m of property to be released for sale. The proceeds from these sales have gone to reduce borrowings and operating costs.

Despite the fall in the shares, the market still reckons the price contains a certain element of speculative favour.

FITCH LOVELL

Dip in profits

Fitch Lovell is slowly seeing the rewards of its efforts to alter the balance between its food manufacturing, retailing and wholesaling businesses.

However, for the six months to October, pretax profits fell by £140,000 to £4.2m on sales up £55m to £363m. The downturn comes mainly from the agriculture, fisheries and feed division, which lost £570,000 against profits of £16,000.

Otherwise the manufacturing sector, which includes Millers, Robirch and Jus-Rol products, performed reasonably with a small drop in profits to £2.9m against £3.1m.

Profits from wholesaling soared to £1.3m against £703,000. This division now covers Joseph Stocks, bought last year, and Lovell and Christmas (Ulster), a bacon processing business, previously with the manufacturing business.

PRATT ENGINEERING

Move into loss

Shares in F. Pratt Engineering Corporation, of Yorkshire — where a board dispute led to the removal of two directors last summer, fell 10p yesterday to 70p as a result of a turnround in pretax profits for the year to October.

Profits fell from £992,000 to a loss of £790,000, and turnover dipped from £22m to £18.8m. This included £1.4m sales and profits of ££28,000 for the Hamblin and Wingate optical and medical companies which were sold last March to Dolland and Aitchison Group.

The loss also includes £431,000 from the Pratt Woolworth subsidiary of Winchester after closure at the factory there.

An extraordinary credit of £1.65m includes a £3.6m profit on the sale of Hamblin and Wingate. The reduction in orders reported a the half year continued in the second six months leaving orders on hand of £6.2m at the year end

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

Siemens, the West German electrical group, has made strengthening profitability its priority this year and is aiming to cut the losses in its computer and electronic component divisions. But Dr Karlheinz Kaske, the group's chief executive, gave warning that no major improvement in results is likely in the business year to the end of September after the fall in group net earnings to Dm509m (£118m) in 1980-81 from Dm633m (£146m) the year before.

In the first quarter of the current year, net profit rose fractionally to Dm144m from Dm141m 12 months before, to represent 1.6 per cent of group sales of Dm8,800m. New orders rose by 19 per cent to Dm10,900m largely because of a number of large contracts from Oil-producing countries, bringing orders in hand at the end of 1981 to Dm53,000m.

Dr Kaske said that over 1981-82, turnover was unlikely to rise by more than 20 per cent from the Dm34,561m achieved in 1980-81.

Shell Oil's exploration earnings were up for both the final quarter and the whole of 1981, but chemical earnings declined. Capital and exploration spending reach $4,100m (£2,193), an increase of $900m over 1980 spending. This year it plans to spend $4,300m with about 70 per cent earmarked for the exploration and development of domestic energy resources.

Gulf Oil Corporations' earnings from exploration and production appears temporarily to have peaked. The company said its refining and marketing operations have recovered following first-half 1981 problems with crude oil costs. Earnings fell from $1,400m to $1,230m (£661m) in 1981

Mobil reports that a decline in foreign energy earnings in the fourth quarter of 1981 more than offset gains in its US energy earnings. Fourth-quarter energy earnings were $604m (£325m) down $15m.

Krupp. Consolidated turnover for 1981 rose 27 per cent to DM 16.7m (£3.8m). Without being specific, Krupp said earnings for the group differed among its various sectors.

BIDS AND DEALS

Scott and Robertson has sold its Douglas Plastics subsidiary to certain members of the senior management of that company for a nominal sum and the petition for liquidation has been withdrawn. B. P. L. has, in line with other trade moulders, experienced extremely difficult trading conditions in the past two years. As a consequence of these difficulties it contributed a loss of £70,000 out of the group loss before tax of £186,000 for the half-year to August 31.

Allied Colloids Inc a wholly-owned U.S. subsidiary of Allied Colloids Group, has bought 70 acres of land at Suffolk, Virginia, as a manufacturing site for specialized industrial chemicals. Only a small percentage of the area will be built on initially, and it is estimated that the total cost, including the land, of the first phase of the project up to mid-1983 will be in the region of £3m which will be funded by U.S. dollar term loans.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Edinburgh Amer. Assets (F)		—(—)	0.6(0.572)	0.87(0.87)	0.85(0.8)	
16/4	0.85(0.8)					
Evode (F)	32.6(32.4)	2.1(2.06)	11.57(10.33)	1.3(1.1)	2/4	1.84(1.68)
First Nat. Fin. (F) (F)	—(—)	16.6(7.67)	14.5(7.2)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Fitch Lovell (I)	363.3(318.4)	4.2(4.35)	5.44(5.68)	1.4(1.4)	1/4	—(3.71)
Garford-Lilley (I)	2.82(2.98)	0.28(0.29)	2.04(2.14)	0.2(0.2)	17/3	—(1.35)
Henlys (F)	194(195)	1.9a(0.6a)	7.2a(0.6a)	3(3)	6/4	6(6)
Hallie (I)	4.15(4.22)	0.4(0.34)	9.6(8.5)	4(2.5)	1/4	—(7.75)
Hill & Smith (F)	15.1(18.4)	0.41(1.13)	3.68(11.56)	2.5(2.2c)	29/3	3.5(3.1c)
Inchape (I)	895.1(790)	37.7(39.1)	21.5(22.6)	7.1(7.1)	2/4	—(11.0)
Olympia (Redacre) (F)	1.33(1.83)	0.15b(0.1b)	7.8a(5.2a)	—(—)	—	—(—)
F. Pratt (F)	18.8(22.01)	0.79(0.99a)	—(—)	2.2(2.)	6/4	4.4(6)
Warner Est. (F)	7.21(7.15)	1.75(1.88)	8.3(7.4)	5(3.5)	25/3	8(6.5)
Wellman Eng. (I)	19.7(17.2)	0.41(0.37a)	2.28(3.06a)	1.6(1.6)	19/3	—(3.35)
Wiggins Group (I)	8.61(14.25)	0.27(0.26)	—(—)	1.5(1)	2/4	—(2.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News, dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Net profit; b=Adjusted for scrip issue; c=For 8½ months.

COMMODITIES

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon —Higher grade cash, £863.50-64.00; three months £891.50-92.00. Sales: 9,000 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £861-63; three months, £897-89; Sales: 2,400 tonnes. Morning.—Higher grade cash, £863-64; three months £889-90.00. Settlement, £864. Sales: 13,400 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £860-61; three months, £885-86. Settlement, £861. Sales: 800 tonnes.

TIN was easier.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £8,650-60 a tonne; three months £8,025-30. Sales, 835 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,650-60; three months £8,070-80. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £8,680-8,700; three months £8,030-50. Settlement, £8,700. Sales, 750 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,680-8,700; three months, £8,080-90. Settlement, £8,700. Sales, 70 tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M35.50 a picul.

LEAD was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £369.50-70.50 per tonne; three months, £380-81. Sales, 9,050 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £372-72.50; three months, £382-82.50. Settlement £372.50. Sales, 8,950 tonnes.

ZINC was steady. — Afternoon. Cash, £450.50-51.00 per tonne; three months, £456.50-57.00. Sales, 6,200 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £450-51; three months, £457-58. Settlement, £451. Sales, 6,850 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £196 ($367) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steadier. — Bullion market (fixing levels). Spot 428.90p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 801.80); three months, 443.40p (830.30); six months, 458.15p (860.30c); one year, 487.15p (917.80c). London Metal Exchange — Afternoon. — Cash 433.15-34.5p; three months, 448.5-49.0p. Sales, 36 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash, 431.5-32.5p; three months, 446.2-47.0p. Settlement, 432.5p. Sales, 68 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £598-99 per tonne; three months £619-20. Sales, 220 tonnes. Morning. —Cash £597-97.50; three months £617.50-18.50. Settlement, £597.50. Sales, 4,050 tonnes.

NICKEL was quietly steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £3060-70 per tonne; three months £3110-15. Sales, 270 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £3060-70; three months £3110-12. Settlement, £3070. Sales, 234 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo). — March 51.80-52.00; April 52.80-53.20; April-June 53.80-53.90; July-Sept 57.10-57.20; Oct-Dec 60.30-60.40; Jan-March 63.60-63.70; April-June 66.50-66.70; July-Sept 69.50-69.70; Oct-Dec 72.60-72.70. Sales: six at five tonnes; 357 at 15 tonnes.

COFFEE. — ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Jan 1,165-1,169; March 1,183-1,184; May 1,148-1,149; July 1,133-1,135; Sept 1,134-1,125; Nov 1,113-1,114; Jan 1,101-1,111. Sales: 3,059 lots.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).—March, 1,206-1,207; May, 1,187-1,188; July, 1,196-1,197; Sept, 1,208-1,209; Dec, 1,222-1,223; March, 1,235-1,236; May, 1,243-1,246. Sales: 1,904 lots. ICCO prices: daily (Jan 27) 98.01c; indicator price (Jan 28) 5-day average 98.49c. (US cents per lb.)

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was unchanged at £176; the "whites" price was £1 lower at £181. Futures (£ per tonne): March, 176.90-176.95; May, 179.10-179.25; Aug, 182-182.25; Oct, 185.60-185.75; Jan, 187-188.25; March, 192-192.05; May, 193-195. Sales: 5,909 tonnes. ISA prices (Jan 27): daily 13.65c; 15-day average 12.92c.

WALL STREET

New York, Jan 28. — Stock prices rose in active trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was up nearly eight points and advances led declines by almost four to one. Volume was about 11-½ million shares.

Analysts said the recovery in the bond market following the news of yesterday's Treasury refunding package has encouraged investors. One analyst, citing technical factors, said "The market simply is tired of going down".

Xerox, which reported slightly lower fourth quarter earnings, gained ⅛ to 41-⅛.

	Jan 27	Jan 28		Jan 27	Jan 28
Allied Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Nat Boston	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Penn Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	[illegible]	[illegible]	Ford	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alcoa	[illegible]	[illegible]	GAF Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Dynamics	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Airlines	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Pub Util NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Cyanamid	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Tel Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Tire	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	Genesco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]	Georgia Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Nat Res	[illegible]	[illegible]	Getty Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Standard	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gillette	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Telephone	[illegible]	[illegible]	Goodrich	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMF Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Goodyear	[illegible]	[illegible]
Armco Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gould Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

INTERNATIONAL

JAPAN

Japan's vehicle exports in 1981 rose only 1.3 per cent to 6.05 million from 5.97 million in 1980, when they rose 30.9 per cent, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association said yesterday.

The slump in exports was due to Japan's voluntary export restraints on sales to the United States and most members of the European Economic Community, the economic slow down in Western countries and the yen's appreciation against some European currencies, the association said.

● Japanese motorcycle exports in 1981 rose 10.9 per cent to a record 4.36 million from 3.93 million the preceding year, with export value up to $3.92 billion from $3.27 billion, the Japan Automobile Manufactuers Association said.

● Japan's steel exports during the calendar year of 1982 will fall to a nine-year low of 28.80 million tonnes following increased competition from developing nations, the Japan Iron and Steel Exporters Association said in a survey report.

FRANCE

The eighth summit conference of the seven major Western industrialized nations will take place at Versailles, on June 4, 5 and 6, the Elysee Palace announced yesterday. France wants labour and unemployment to be the main theme of the conference. Also likely to be high on the agenda are the monetary instability, the turbulence on international markets and East-West trade and industrial problems.

● The number of labour conflicts that led to work stoppages in France last November soared 109 per cent from the same 1980 month to 375, the Labour Ministry said yesterday.

W. GERMANY

Pre-tax earnings for the West German car industry as a whole fell an estimated 60 per cent in 1981 from previous years levels, according to Mr Horst Backsmann, president of the West German Auto Industry Association.

● West Germany's import price index was unchanged in December at 143.3 — base 1976 — to stand 9.5 per cent above its December 1980 level, the Federal Statistics Office said in Wiesbaden. The export price index rose 0.2 per cent to reach 123.1 — 5.6 per cent higher than in December 1980.

LUXEMBOURG

Consumer prices in the European Community rose by average 12.7 per cent last year the ECC Statistics office said yesterday. On a yearly basis West Germany recorded the lowest inflation rate with 6.3 per cent, while the highest rates were in Ireland, with 23.3 per cent.

SUDAN

Sudan, which has discovered oil in commercial quantities, expects to allocate concessions for all worthwhile drilling areas by the end of the year, Energy Ministry officials said in Khartoum yesterday.

HONGKONG

Hongkong officials said yesterday that the colony would be taking legal action over trade restrictions imposed on Hongkong by France. Restrictions imposed by France began in 1957 and now cover nine types of goods.

ITALY

Mr Antonio Fazio, central director of economic research at the Bank of Italy, will succeed Mr Mario Sarcinelli as deputy general director, the central bank announced yesterday.

AUSTRALIA

Australia's inflation rate rose to 11.3 per cent in 1981 from 9.1 per cent in the 12 months to end September and 9.3 per cent in 1980, the Statistics Bureau said yesterday.

NORWAY

Production of oil and gas in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea fell last year to 48.78 million tonnes of oil equivalents from 49.51 million in 1980.

PEOPLE

Ms Smith did take note

Christina Smith, former secretary to the Habitat millionaire Terence Conran, finds herself in the position to dictate to her former boss.

Ms Smith has bought at auction the freehold of Conran's Covent Garden design studios next door to his Neal Street Restaurant, for more than £200,000.

After working for Conran before he got Habitat going in the 1960s Ms Smith set up her own company, Goods and Chattels marketing household goods. Habitat became her first large customer. She later set up two shops in Covent Garden but still makes regular buying trips to China as Habitat's agent.

Taking advantage of stagnant prices when Covent Garden market moved across the river to Nine Elms, Ms Smith set about converting warehouses into offices, studios and shops, later negotiating long leases or buying the freehold. She now controls more than 170,000 sq ft of commercial space in an area where property values are climbing once again.

She lives on the top floor of a former warehouse, directly above Conran's restaurant. A perfect position for a landlady to keep an eye on her tenants.



Landlady Christina Smith yesterday.

Adam-style mini computers

Adam Osborne is a Briton who made good in the United States but is now back in Britain trying to make even better.

Osborne, 42, left this country 20 years ago and subsequently founded his own software house Osborne Computer Corporation. He is back in Britain to set up a British subsidiary to market his first venture into hardware — a portable microcomputer the size of a small sewing machine.

This is the Osborne I, which has double disc drive and a built-in video screen. It is meant for the workaholic who wants to take the computer home — and he and she can use it in the car as well.

Osborne tells *People* that one of his battery pack portables is already bumping around Africa with chimpanzee expert Jane Goodall.

Mitterrand's men of steel

A former oilman, Raymond Levy, aged 54, is to succeed Claude Etchegarry as head of France's biggest steel company, Usinor. At another newly-nationized steel firm, Sacilor, Jacques Mayoux is to be replaced as chairman by a civil servant, steel specialist Claude Doll.

These steel appointments have been announced before those at the banks, because steel was not included in the nationalization bill.

Levy, a former deputy chairman of Elf Aquitaine, was widely expected to get the Usinor job after an earlier appointment as chairman of La Compagnie des Aciers Speciaux, a Usinor/Creusot-Loire speciality steel joint venture.



"But madam, I only want to interest you in our fully comprehensive anti-rape protection policy."

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Gordon Alexander and Mr Philip Plumridge have been appointed corporate finance directors of the newly-formed large corporate division of Barclays Bank.

Mr Peter J. Hall has been elected chairman of the Hire Association Europe.

Mr John S. Harris, Mr John C. C. Pilley and Mr Richard W. Smith have been appointed directors of Henderson Unit Trust Management.

Mr A. J. Taylor has been appointed director of Arundell House Securities.

Malcolm Brown and Edward Townsend

How Mr De Lorean ran into a roadblock

Mr John Zachary De Lorean is a gambler. On Wednesday night as he flew into London for a crisis meeting with Northern Ireland Secretary Mr James Prior, he told the assembled television cameras that in one important respect motor companies were like banks: if their credibility was damaged, customers took to the hills.

But, said the founder and chairman of the De Lorean car company, he would fight on and he was sure that after the Prior talks he would have something for the Press which would please them.

It was almost as if De Lorean, who looks and sounds as though he was drawn straight from the Central Casting List of top American industrialists, was daring fate to deal him a bad card.

It did. At 1am yesterday Mr De Lorean emerged from his talks with the Northern Ireland Secretary with the message that there would be no further assistance for the Dunmurry, West Belfast, company.

He had come seeking £36m in financial guarantees from the Export Credits Guarantee Department. With that denied, major redundancies and a recasting of the Dunmurry operation were inevitable.

The question now is whether the De Lorean Motor company can survive. Can it draw in its horns and sweat out the American recession — America is the sole market for the gull-winged car — or is it on the way towards total collapse?

The prognosis is not good. According to Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, the company had made 7,681 cars by the end of last year. By January 15 only 4,756 had been sold to dealers in America and only 3,085 retail sales had been reported.

In short, a large number of cars are either in stock or in transit. They have to be financed and money is short. Whether the car is salable or not becomes almost a secondary consideration at a time like this. Nor are the dealers' contractual commitments to buy 43,000 cars under their agreements with the company of much consolation. There would be little benefit for De Lorean in pushing dealers to the wall.

The priority must be to finance the growing stocks. Mr De Lorean needed Export Credit Guarantee Department backing if he was to be able to raise money from the banks to keep the whole operation at its present level in anticipation of an upturn later this year. Without it he is in trouble.

As one observer put it yesteray: "One is looking forward to a three-month period of chickens coming home to roost in the company."

As Mr De Lorean is well aware, the absence of government backing could bring a lot of related problems in its train. Suppliers who have extended credit to the De Lorean company will start to press for repayment. Dealers in the United States, some of whom have already found their own credit lines being forshortened, could now come under even heavier pressure. Even those dealers who are shifting cars will almost certainly be more inclined to pay off their own debts to the banks with the sale proceeds, rather than reorder more vehicles from Dunmurry.

De Lorean: key dates

July 1981: First quarterly royalty instalment of £205,000 paid to government.

August 1981: First proposed Wall Street flotation of shares in De Lorean Motors Holdings

October 1981: Police begin investigation of De Lorean after allegations by Mr Nicholas Winterton MP of financial irregularities. No evidence of criminal conduct discovered. Mr De Lorean issues libel writs against seven defendants.

November 1981: De Lorean recalls 2,200 cars sold in America for rectification of suspension weakness.

January 1982: Wall Street flotation postponed.

January 1982: Mr De Lorean seeks further government guarantees for loans of !36m via the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The De Lorean car plant was born in a blaze of publicity in 1978. It seemed like a godsend to the then (Labour) Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Roy Mason. Faced with appalling unemployment in West Belfast Mr Mason fought a long, hard battle to ensure that the American car maker should be given a chance in the province.

He faced considerable scepticism from other government departments. In an article in defence of the project only three months ago (at a time when allegations about company dealings were casting a cloud over Mr De Lorean) Mr Mason described the reservations which he had to overcome in Whitehall. Three months on, those reservations do not seem so ill-founded as Mr Mason seemed to be suggesting.

The Department of Trade was concerned that the cars were going into a single market — the United States. The Treasury was concerned about the cost. The Foreign Office asked whether a market survey had established that there was a market.

The company although it has been planning to sell into the Middle East, Canada and even Europe as business built up — is still selling into a single market, America, and that market has stalled. The costs have clearly become too great for the government to bear and the question whether there is really a market for the car remains largely unresolved.

The downturn in the American car market has been a crucial factor in bringing De Lorean's troubles to a head. In a good year America can support a market of 10.5m new cars. Last summer just as De Lorean was handing over his first £205,000 royalty cheque to the government, analysts were still predicting that more than 9m cars would be sold.

But the expected second half recovery in the market never materialised, and by the end of last year only 8.5m new cars had been sold in the United States. Reflecting that downturn was a small, but not insignificant pointer from some De Lorean dealers — they were now selling the cars at a discount.

The assessors now ordered in by Mr Prior to run a slide-rule over the De Lorean operation will have two things to decide: first whether there is a prospect of the American car market in general and the market for two-seater sports cars in particular, picking up; secondly, whether the De Lorean company, as at present structure, could fully exploit such a market.

There will certainly be a seasonal upswing in the American car market this spring, but few experts would put their money on that being sustained throughout the year. Most analysts are looking towards 1983 for the resurgence of the market, but that, it is stressed, very much depends on America pulling out of the economic doldrums over the next 12 months. How the specialist part of that market will fare will be even more difficult to guage, but the assessors will certainly want to explore why it was, that the company's attempts to raise cash on Wall Street have been so troubled.

That in turn will lead them into an investigation of the structure of the company and of the place in that structure of John Zachary De Lorean.

Certainly before the Dunmurry project Mr De Lorean had built up a formidable — and latterly very controversial — track record. The son of a millwright at the Ford Motor Company foundry in Detroit, he progressed — after a short spell selling life insurane — through the ranks of Chrysler and Packard, finally, in 1956, joning the Pontiac division of General Motors.

It was to be a 17 year sojourn at GM ending in some acrimony when he resigned in 1973, disillusioned with the direction that General Motors was taking. But in those 17 years he worked his way towards $650,000 a year in salary and bonuses and ultimately had effective charge of five American car divisions (Chevrolet, Buick, Oldsmobile, Pontiac and Cadillac), the truck and coach division and the Canadian car and truck operations.

Five years after the GM resignation he was in Belfast signing the documents which would give the De Lorean motor car company its start in Belfast. The cynics, including many in Detroit, said that the gull-wing door stainless steel car would never see the light of day. It did and it has provided 2,600 much needed jobs in Belfast.

Now it appears that Mr De Lorean has made commercial miscalculations — no worse than his opposite numbers in competing companies, but De Lorean is a much more fragile animal. The question will certainly arise wether a restructuring might have to involve a change in role for Mr De Lorean himself.

The company must have the strength of the banks round it if it is to survive. It would be ironic if Mr De Lorean had to make the ultimate sacrifice to ensure that.



Over an obstacle in London yesterday: others may prove more difficult for Mr De Lorean

The Belfast factory — born in a blaze of publicity, it seemed like a godsend to the then Secretary of Northern Ireland, Mr Roy Mason

Reaching for the sky in Hongkong

TECHNOLOGY: ARCHITECTURE

By Clive Cookson

Later this year scores of Chinese families will camp out on a construction site in the commercial district of Hongkong, each group manually digging out one hole for the building's foundations in the time-honoured tradition of the colony. Then, as the building progresses, it will be clad in the bamboo scaffolding that has always encased Hongkong's growing office blocks.

From that low technology base is going to rise the world's most adventurous and technologically advanced skyscraper. It is the new £200m headquarters for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, an architectural commission won by the London firm of Foster Associates in an international competition 2½ years ago.

The striking feature of the overall design is that, unlike other tower blocks, it has no central core to support lifts, services and floors. Foster has put that obstruction on the outside.

The floors are suspended from beams between the steel masts of the bank's outer frame. All the lifts, toilets and services such as water, power, heating and cooling are clipped onto the east and west faces of the building — nothing gets in the way of the open office space.

The so-called Vierendeel masts which support the skyscraper have been used before for small structures like footbridges, but never for a building. Each mast is a close group of four tapering steel columns, braced at every storey by short steel rods.

Architects have traditionally been suspicious of Vierendeel structures because they are liable to deflect. But the computing power available today enabled Ove Arup and Partners, Foster's consulting engineers, to design masts strong enough for the bank, by calculating the most effective stiffness of the columns and the cross-bracing.

During the typhoons that occasionally hit Hongkong, the bank's side walls will have to take as much horizontal force as the vertical loading on the floors — or, as Mike Glover of Ove Arup put it: "It's like having everyone in a football stadium standing on the outside."

Foster and Arup have conducted extensive wind tunnel tests at the University of Western Ontario, Canada, with a scale model of the bank and the surrounding buildings, to measure the wind patterns and ensure that the structure can withstand the strongest gusts. The results have been incorporated in a precise computer model of the building.

Another technological advance which helped make the building possible was the aircraft industry's development of extremely light but strong flooring. This material, composed of an aluminium honeycomb, will be used for the bank's raised floors. It can be taken up very easily to gain access to the electrical, telecommunications and computer cables beneath.

The suspension technique allowed Foster to break out of the claustrophobic uniformity of most office buildings, in which you go up vertically by a central lift to the floor you want. In the bank a specific outer lift will take the visitor non-stop to one of four large intermediate spaces — twice the height of a normal office storey — full of greenery, water and cafes.



An impression of the 41-story headquarters for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, designed by Foster Associates of London and due to be completed in 1985.

From that atrium, escalators will take people up or down to their own office floor.

"The building will be broken down into a cluster of vertical villages rather than an institutional whole," said the chief architect Norman Foster.

Surprisingly, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank will gain significant extra space from Mr Foster's "more human" design. The absence of a central core allows 73.5 per cent of the building's interior space to be used — conventional skyscrapers achieve 65 per cent at best.

Britain's main contribution is the 25,000 ton steel frame, ordered from the British Steel Corporation for £50 million. The contract for the service modules went to Japan, while the United States is providing the bank's "cladding" (the outer covering of glass and aluminium, including sun control louvres).

The construction technology will allow the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank unusual flexibility to change the building after it is completed. The design is as large as the complicated local regulations permit on the tight site; the skyscraper must allow a certain minimum level of light to fall onto the streets around it. But if the laws change — as they frequently do in Hongkong — or if nearby buildings are redeveloped, the bank could expand by 30 per cent without altering its basic structure.

Interior lighting is an area in which Foster has been particularly innovative. For example an elaborate system of concave exterior mirrors and internal reflectors will "scoop" natural light into the five-story high banking hall at the base of the building. The hall will have a translucent glass floor which sends the light down into the basement during the day, and glows with artificial light from below at night.

The office ceilings will be a sophisticated arrangement of curved mirrors, reflecting as much daylight and communal artificial light as possible onto the workers' desks. The bank's elecricity consumption should be cut substantially as a result.

In addition, staff will have individual ceiling spotlights over their desks. They will also have more control over their "microclimate" than in the traditional airconditioned building, with their own vents to provide hot or cold air, like passengers in a spacious airliner.

Norman Foster is obsessed with aeroplanes and flying. Many of his ideas, which strike the building industry as daring high technology, are merely transfers of standard practice in the aircraft industry. An example is "superplastic aluminium", which British Aerospace had used widely in aircraft components before Foster picked it up for his Sainsbury Centre at the University of East Anglia.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crds.	14½%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams & Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 11¼%, £10,000 up to £50,000 12¼%, £50,000 and over 12¾%.

Business Editor

The Budget that never was

The Irish Dail may have thrown out the propossed 1982 Budget and forced an election into the bargain, but it is difficult to see how the Irish electors are going to escape some nasty medicine whichever party returns on Febuary 18. The truth of the matter is that the Irish economy is in a terrible mess and, in the view of some observers, heading rapidly towards a major crisis.

In other words, if the new government does not do something to put the house in order, then it may not be all that long before the IMF has to be called in to do it for it.

Ireland, it is true, has not seen the recession in quite the sa. e way as Britain. The growth rate has slowed appreciably from its average of almost 4 per cent through the 1970s but at least real GNP did eapand last year, a;beit by only 1 per cent. Possibly one might argue that but for this the unemployment rate of over 13 per cent would have been higher still.

The point, however, is that these marginal advantages have been bought at enormous financial cost and the writing is on the wall. Inflation has been running at more than 20 per cent; the ublic sector borrowing requirement has been up to 17 per cent of GNP; and foreign exchange reserves are no more than the equivalent of two month's imports.

In that context, the proposals of the defeated budget to bring the PSBR down to about 14-15 per cent ot GNP, were hardly outrageous. Unless a new government sticks to that kind of aim, step number one may well be a devaluation within the EMS. But it is the medium term conequences of not getting on top of the situation that should perhaps be worrying Ireland most.

After all Ireland remains a country keen to sell itself to foreign industrialists and attract overseas capital.

Gas prices

Russian factor

Has the price of gas, like that of oil, peaked? This is one implication of the contentious gas supply deals being negotiated between the Russians and the French and Germans at prices well below what might have been expected only a year ago.

Gas prices are, of course, notoriously difficult to interpret. Despite Energy Secretary Mr Nigel Lawson's fond beliefs, there is no open market in gas. Prices are determined on long-term contracts of 20 or 25 years, in which the escalation clauses are as important as the starting price. The buyers are monopoly utilities and the fact that gas must be transported by pipeline greatly restricts the jostling of buyers and sellers.

But the Russian sale of lage volumes of Siberian gas to the European market in the late 1980s is as important in energy market implications as it is in political terms. The volumes are such — 40 billion cubic metres a year — as to threaten a potential surplus when they come into the market in five years' time. Without Russian gas, the major European buyers — France, Germany, Italy — could be in serious problems indeed in coping with the decline of the vast Grongingen gas field which supphes most of their needs. With Russian gas, and lower demand, the buyers could, for the first time, be in a position to bargain seriously with other potential sellers such as Algeria, Libya and possibly even Norway.

This in turn, coupled with the Russian determination to find a steady source of foreign currency over the coming decade, has encouraged the Soviet Union to settle for an attractive price of around 27p per therm and apparently reasonable escalation terms.

The price is considerably higher than historic levels (British prices vary from 7p per therm for southern gas to nearer 20p for Frigg gas). But it is less than what BP, for example, has said is necessary for future supplies in the North Sea — around 30p per therm landed — and very considerably less than the oil-parity of 33p per therm which the Algerians and, at times, the Norwegians have been urging as a well-head price.

The implications could be extremely important, not least for Britain and the debate over Nigel Lawson's gas legislation. In the first place, it must affect Norway's strength as a seller of gas into North-West Europe.

If the Continental buyers can afford to be choosier than they have in the past, then Norway may look again at the United Kingdom as a market for its exports. In the second place, the Russian deal could also undermine the oil industry's hopes of gaining oil price parity for North Sea gas.

The Russian deal raises the base price considerably from current supplies but tends to restrict the scope of price rises for future supplies. For the larger fields, this may not matter so much. But for the smaller fields, already deprived in many cases of easy transportation because of the collapse of plans for a central gas gathering pipeline system in the North Sea, it could prove the difference between producing gas or leaving it in the ground.

G ilts

Bank says 3%

The Bank of England's decision not to supply applications for the new indexed-linked gilt at a price below 90 — where the yield is about 3 per cent — looks eminently sensible. In effect what the Bank has done is to spell out to fund managers precisely how far it can be pushed, and by doing so it should produce greater stability for this particular market in future.

Apart from not wanting to concede a real return grossly over the odds per se, the Bank did of course also need to keep the return to a level that would not undermine the present yields on conventional stocks too. Hence the bounce in the market yesterday afternoon.

Mortgages

Index problem

An index-linked home loan scheme has, on the face of it, somewhat greater appeal for the investor than the borrower. But the Building Trust, a new unauthorized unit trust, claims £60 million worth of applicants for its new index linked home loan scheme.

Borrowers from the Building Trust pay interest building society rate, and they would currently borrow at 10 per cent. But 50 per cent of the loan is linked to movements in the house prices index, which means that homebuyers are potentially giving away some 50 per cent of any capital gain realized on their home.

Robin Ellison, managing director of the Building Trust, is confident that there will be no shortage of applicants. But there are potential pitfalls — particularly for the first-time buyer who requires a high percentage loan. House prices vary widely from region to region. Over the past year some areas have seen actual decreases of anything up to 10 per cent in house prices. The average for the country as a whole has been an increase of around 5 per cent.

Some borrowers could quite easily see the value of their particular property falling, at the same time as their loan was actually increasing. Caveat emptor.

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities advance

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 25. Dealings End Feb 12. § Contango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

1981/82 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
102¼	99¼	Treas	14% 1982	99$^{11}/_{32}$	..	14.013	14.498
97⅞	93$^{15}/_{16}$	Treas	8¼% 1982	97$^{13}/_{16}$	..	8.446	14.050
96⅜	93$^{11}/_{16}$	Exch	9¼% 1982	96$^{11}/_{16}$	..	9.567	14.831
95¾	92⅝	Exch	8¾% 1983	95$^{7}/_{16}$	..	9.168	14.182
93¼	84⅞	Exch	3% 1983	93¼	+¼	3.217	9.902
99$^{7}/_{16}$	95¼	Treas	12% 1983	97¼	+⅛	12.339	14.758
95¾	90½	Treas	9½% 1983	95¼	+⅛	9.712	12.950
101$^{15}/_{16}$	95¼	Exch	13½% 1983	99¼	+¼	13.600	13.958
94½	89¼	Exch	10% 1983	94½	+⅛	10.582	13.421
89½	83½	Fund	5½% 1982-84	89½	+¼	6.146	11.647
99¼	90¼	Exch	11¼% 1984	95¼	+⅛	11.810	14.010
103$^{5}/_{16}$	95⅛	Exch	14% 1984	99	+⅛	14.141	14.507
84¼	77¼	Exch	3% 1984	84	..	3.571	10.795
98$^{7}/_{16}$	90⅝	Treas	12% 1984	94⅛	+⅛	12.746	14.730
107$^{13}/_{16}$	95⅞	Treas	15% 1985	99¾	+⅛	15.040	15.114
93⅞	89¼	Exch Cv	12% 1983	91¾	+¼	13.079	15.403
77½	71	Treas	3% 1985	77	..	3.896	11.578
96$^{5}/_{16}$	85⅛	Treas	11½% 1985	90⅛	+⅛	12.759	15.284
98¾	87¼	Exch	12¼% 1985	91⅜	+½	13.407	15.300
97¼	84⅞	Exch	11¾% 1986	89½	+½	13.129	15.319
72½	65¾	Treas	3% 1986	72½	..	4.138	11.245
97¼	84⅞	Treas	12% 1986	89¼	+⅛	13.447	15.460
88¼	78⅝	Treas	8½% 1984-86	82⅞	+½	10.287	13.871
94¼	92	Exch	14% 1986	94¾	+⅛	14.775	15.595

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) January 28	Market rates (close) January 28	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8640-8775	$1.8715-8725	0.03c prem-0.07c disc	0.22-0.32c disc
Montreal	$2.2335-2470	$2.2410-2420	par-0.10c disc	0.30-0.45c disc
Amsterdam	4.76½-79½fl	4.77½-78½fl	1⅛-1¼c prem	5⅛-4⅛c prem
Brussels	73.70-74.25f	74.00-10f	13-33c disc	80-100c disc
Copenhagen	14.24-32k	14.25½-26½k	20-110ore prem	265-400ore disc
Dublin	1.2340-2430p	1.2400-2415p	30-45p disc	115-130p disc
Frankfurt	4.34-37½m	4.35½-36½m	1⅞-1¼pf prem	4⅛-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	125.50-136.50e	126.10-40e	35-155c disc	135-405c disc
Madrid	184.75-185.50p	185.25-45p	par-30c disc	50-80c disc
Milan	2331-41lr	2335½-36½lr	12¼-15¼lr disc	45-48lr disc
Oslo	11.05-12k	11.07-08k	270-155ore prem	215-105ore prem
Paris	11.05-11f	11.08-09f	½-1½c disc	3¼-4¼c disc
Stockholm	10.62-67k	10.63½-64½k	220-155ore prem	605-535ore prem
Tokyo	428-35y	432¼-33¼y	2.75-2.40y prem	8.35-8.00y prem
Vienna	30.40-65sch	30.50-55sch	13-6gro prem	38-28gro prem
Zurich	3.46-49f	3.47½-48½f	1½-1c prem	4⅛-4¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.3 at 91.6

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14¼ Low 11

Week Fixed: 14-13⅞

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13$^{29}/_{32}$	2 months	13$^{13}/_{16}$
3 months	13⅞	3 months	13⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13$^{15}/_{16}$-13⅞	1 month	14¼
2 months	13$^{15}/_{16}$-13$^{27}/_{32}$	2 months	14⅛
3 months	13$^{27}/_{32}$-13¾	3 months	14½
6 months	13½-13⅜	6 months	14⅛

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15-14⅞	7 months	14½-14¼
2 months	15-14⅞	8 months	14½-14¼
3 months	15-14⅞	9 months	14⅞-14⅝
4 months	15-14⅞	10 months	14⅞-14⅝
5 months	14⅞-14½	11 months	14⅞-14⅝
6 months	14½-14¼	12 months	14⅝-14⅜

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14½-14⅜	6 months	14½-14⅜
3 months	14½-14⅜	12 months	14½-14⅜

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14½	3 months	14½
7 days	14½	6 months	14½
1 month	14½	1 year	14⅞

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14½ Close 12½

1 week	14⅝-14⅜	6 months	14⅝-14½
1 month	14$^{9}/_{16}$-14$^{7}/_{16}$	9 months	14⅝-14½
3 months	14⅝-14½	12 months	14⅝-14½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 15 6 months 15

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6905-1.7065
Bahrein	0.7025-0.7855
Finland	8.3035-8.3435
Greece	110.65-113.65
Hongkong	10.9195-10.9595
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.5285-0.5315
Malaysia	4.2360-4.2660
Mexico	50.75-52.25
New Zealand	2.3145-2.3345
Saudi Arabia	6.3720-6.4020
Singapore	3.8665-3.8965
South Africa	1.8140-1.8290

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5080-1.5100
† Canada	1.1974-1.1976
Netherlands	2.6500-2.6530
Belgium	39.49-39.53
Denmark	7.6175-7.6225
West Germany	2.3265-2.3275
Portugal	67.30-67.50
Spain	99.00-99.10
Italy	1247.25-1248.00
Norway	5.9140-5.9190
France	5.9230-5.9280
Sweden	5.6830-5.6860
Japan	230.80-230.95
Austria	16.28-16.30
Switzerland	1.8560-1.8580

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8350-0.8352

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 12¾-13¾; seven days, 13$^{13}/_{16}$-14$^{1}/_{16}$; one month, 14$^{5}/_{16}$-14$^{7}/_{16}$; three months, 14$^{15}/_{16}$-15$^{1}/_{16}$; six months, 15$^{3}/_{16}$-15$^{5}/_{16}$.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $381.50 (an ounce); pm, $383.50 close, $383.75.
Krugerrand (per coin): $394-396 (£210.35-211.35).
Sovereigns (new): $93.25-94.25 (£49.75-50.25).

Football

Bristol City: nothing in reserve for Dicks or combination side

By Norman Fox

Another sign of the gravity of Bristol City's financial position became apparent yesterday when they called off tomorrow's reserve match at Ipswich. The club, with debts of £1m may have to withdraw from the Football Combination.

Alan Dicks, City's former manager, could also be a victim of the crisis. When he left after 13 years with four years of his contract to run he was offered £55,000 compensation, the final instalment having been due last month.

He said yesterday: "To help them out, I agreed to accept a post-dated cheque for January 31, giving them time to collect money in what should have been a bumper Christmas period. Now I am being told I might collect only a few pence in the pound as an ordinary creditor."

Gerry Sweeney, one of the senior players, could forfeit nearly £10,000 in loyalty bonuses for ten years' service. He agreed not to take the money for 12 months. Seven club directors, and two who resigned recently, also stand to lose £16,000 each if the club has to close down.

The future of the club still rests with eight senior players who have been told they must leave to help reduce costs. Yesterday they repeated that they were not prepared to accept the total of £50,000 being offered but they were willing to play for the first team at Newport tomorrow. The acting manager, Roy Hodgson, will have a team meeting after training today.

The football League are seriously concerned that if City collapse, several other clubs will follow. Banks and other creditors are taking a harder line on debts and Reading's manager, Maurice Evans, yesterday suggested that seven or eight clubs would close soon after Bristol.

Mr Evans said: "Summer soccer is the only way to save football, certainly in the lower divisions. Finance is the only thing football managers talk about when they get together these days. We don't talk about players any more, unless it is to discuss the money they get. If Bristol City go to the wall then panic will set in and seven or eight could quickly follow them into ruin. Players demand money and just don't think where it is going to come from."

Ted Croker, the Football Association secretary, said the crisis drew attention to high transfer fees, which in the past had helped create interest and kept money flowing but were no longer justified and players' contracts. He felt it was time clubs amended contracts when clubs were relegated, as in the case of Bristol City.

The ill-wind blowing throughout League football could yet bring cheer among the outsiders. Altrincham, who have been trying to get into the League, are ready to replace any club failing to survive. Their secretary, David Baldwin, said: "Obviously we don't want to see anyone go out of existence but we are keeping our fingers crossed that we will get our chance." The club have been given planning permission for £300,000 worth of improvements to their Alliance Premier League ground.

Wolves chairman berated

Harry Marshall, the chairman of Wolverhampton Wanderers, is under fire from supporters as the club, now among the bottom three in the first division, prepare for tomorrow's important relegation match at home to Sunderland.

One group have collected 500 signatures on a petition asking a director, Gerry Devine, to move a vote of no confidence in Mr Marshall at the next board meeting.

Another group, known as "frustrated Wolves supporters" are calling for a mass boycott of tomorrow's kick-off.

Robert Middlebrook, their spokesman, said: "Our original idea was for people not to go into the ground until half-time. But we don't want to cause trouble for the police by hanging around outside, so we are asking supporters just to delay their arrival until after the kick off.

"We are ordinary supporters who believe that the club is sinking because of the chairman's policies. We are speaking for the large majority who feel that Mr Marshall and not manager John Barnwell should have gone."

Herbert Chapman, the man who made the manager what he is today

A ghost that walks marble halls

Sixty years ago the managers of football clubs were servile anonymous figures. Like Tom Webster's cartoons of the period which depicted directors with walrus moustaches, bowler hats, striped trousers, and outsize stomachs across which hung the inevitable watch chain; the manager was a figure of some ridicule in ill-fitting garments. He was very much down market, a voiceless relic from the turn of the century.

Today the manager has become news and is a household name. His strengths, weaknesses and lifestyle are revealed to a wide public, warts and all. He can be more important to a club even than an inflationary £1m player. Indeed only recently Sir Alf Ramsey was appointed caretaker-manager of Melchester Rovers in the boys' cartoon publication of "Roy of the Rovers". That surely is scaling the heights?

Yet in hard reality they all live beneath the same sword of Damocles, seeking instant success in a sport which has come to resemble a pressure cooker. Over 1,000 dismissals, resignations and retirements since the war tells their dangerous story.

The first to prick the old balloon of anonymity was Herbert Chapman. A player of little talent in his young days, he became manager of Northampton Town in 1907 quite by chance at a stoppage, moved to Leeds City and was suspended during the First World War when the club was disbanded by the FA for illegal payments.

Yet when he took over struggling Huddersfield Town, then on the point of extinction at the start of the 1920s his magic touch began to be revealed. They soon won promotion from the second division and within five years they became a leading power in the land. Beaten Cup finalists at Stamford Bridge in 1920, winners there in 1922, Chapman built up a side which was the first to win the League Championship for the three successive years of 1923-25.

His star was on the rise and it was to reach its zenith when he travelled south in 1925 to repeat the formula with Arsenal exactly 10 years later. Cup finalists at Wembley in 1927, 1930 (against his old club Huddersfield), 1932 and 1936, Arsenal became the second club to do the treble as league champions of 1933, 34 and 35 after winning the title in 1931.



The way it was: Chapman talks tactics with two players.

Ironically Chapman was absent on both occasions when Huddersfield and Arsenal cleared their third hurdle. In 1925, he had already transferred to London; and on January 6, 1934, he died. Yet in each case the feat was secured by the sides he had constructed. So far only Brian Clough has taken two separate clubs—Derby County and Nottingham Forest—to the title. Nobody has yet measured up to Chapman's achievements.

Born of a mining family of seven children, six of them boys, at Kiveton Park, near Sheffield, in 1878, it was through him that football came of age. He was the first man to drag it into the twentieth century. The late Bob Wall, connected with Arsenal for over 40 years, has told how he began as personal assistant to Chapman, then secretary-manager. One day he was summoned to the boss's office. "Wall, come with me. I'll show you how to conduct a transfer. We are going to sign David Jack from Bolton Wanderers as a replacement for our Charles Buchan who is retiring. We're meeting their chairman and manager at the Euston Hotel. Sit with me, listen and don't say a word."

In due course the Bolton party arrived. They had no wish whatever to part with Jack. Chapman was the master tactician. Ordering large wiskies for the enemy, a whisky and ginger ale and gin and tonic for himself and Wall, a jolly atmosphere soon prevailed. At the end of it Arsenal got their man for £10,890, the first five-figure transfer in history and a bargain in Chapman's view.

The pair returned to Highbury elated, having first primed the waiter to serve them plain ginger and tonic water devoid of whisky and gin. "Wall, that's your first lesson in football", the great man said. "Now you know how to conduct a transfer."

To Chapman the club always came first. A Napoleon, his word was law. He was feared yet won respect and affection from his players, studying their characters, making them happy in their work and trying to improve their status.

Far-seeing and ready for worthwhile change he was far ahead of his time. He tried out numbers on the players' shirts in practice five years before they were introduced by the FA; he foresaw the future of floodlighting and experimented with it as far back as 1932, 19 years before it came to England in 1951; he revolutionized tactics with a third back game and raiding wingers who carried out pincer movements through defences—a ploy which brought Bastin a record of 33 goals from outside left in 1933.

In 1930 when Arsenal and Huddersfield took the Wembley field side by side for the first time in a cup final it was Chapman's idea; he persuaded the London underground authorities to change the name on the Piccadilly line from Gillespie Road to Arsenal; and he planned the building of Arsenal's new East stand and cover for the North terraces.

For a number of years after Chapman's death Wall related how he and other members of the staff, working late, would hear measured steps tap away round the stand, through the boardroom, the cocktail bar, and the press room. Nothing was ever seen to identify those steps. Perhaps, after all, it was Chapman returned to dust the bust of himself at the foot of the staircase in the marble halls of Highbury, the place he made famous.

Geoffrey Green

Tennis: Solutions to McEnroe farce and others

'The Poet' must woo warring factions

By Rex Bellamy

Nothing brings professional tennis into more disrepute than the occasionally offensive behaviour of a few prominent players—all men—and the game's failure to check it. The John McEnroe case is a reminder that disciplinary procedures are inadequate and the administration of men's tennis inefficient. These issues are separate but related.

Wimbledon recommended that in addition to the fines imposed last summer for what are known as minor offences, McEnroe should be fined $10,000, about £5,260, for the major offence of "aggravated behaviour". That figure was halved by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council, who run the grand prix circuit, and the extra fine has now been dropped because a committee of appeal, including a McEnroe nominee, could not reach a unanimous verdict.



McEnroe: stricter control is needed.

The MIPTC assure us that in future a majority verdict will suffice, but they are still backing the wrong horse. For players like McEnroe fines, even suspensions, amount to little more than a nudge in the ribs. That system should be discarded: Its purposes can be better served by firm application of the point penalty system, a cumulative process by which players are penalised points and games and can ultimately be disqualified.

This year, World Championship Tennis, independent promoters, are running a circuit in competition with the grand prix. Discipline should therefore be exercised by a neutral third force, the Association of Tennis Professionals, with the cooperation of the MIPTC and WCT. The MIPTC, incidentally, has become a misnomer and should be reconstituted as the Grand Prix Council.

Respect for the MIPTC has not been enhanced by the WCT breakaway, the fuss about Bjorn Borg having to qualify for Wimbledon, and the protracted nonsense about McEnroe. The MIPTC was designed to unite conflicting forces in the cause of a single, coherent circuit. But there was never much hope of a successful menage a trois between the International Tennis Federation, the ATP and WCT.

The key to all this would be the ATP. It should be their task to impose discipline with the help of their staff of supervisors, to draw up basic percentages for the allocation of prize money (as between singles and doubles and as between rounds), to decide entry qualifications and deadlines, and to issue weekly rankings.

The prize money allocated to singles and doubles should accord with the average number of sets played—that is, the quantity of entertainment provided—but with provision for a maximum deviation of five per cent to satisfy local priorities. The existing ranking system should be extended to include the Davis Cup competition and all knock-out tournaments (grand prix, WCT, and others) that observe basic ATP conditions.

Effective control of men's professional tennis would therefore be in the hands of the ATP, leaving the ITF to concentrate on their wider responsibility as the collective voice of national associations in developing tennis world-wide as a part-time recreation. The ITF should continue to run the Davis Cup competition and a circuit of large-entry grand prix tournaments.

They should also remain the ultimate authority for the rules of play (other than the disciplinary code applying to events recognised by the ATP) and, with interests in both camps, should serve as a link between amateurs and professionals. Perhaps the ITF could also inaugurate a mixed international team championship incorporating the traditional two singles and three doubles events.

Finally, the Wimbledon, French and United States championships should withdraw from the grand prix and form the prototype of an official, points-linked, world championship series.

It could be a help rather than a hindrance that the president of the French Federation, the president of the ITF, and the chairman of the MIPTC are the same man, Philippe Chatrier. "The poet," as he likes to be known, can be passionate and prejudiced, but at heart he is a caring, reasonable, and practical man.

Property man McNamara moves into last eight

From Bryan John
Delray Beach, Florida, Jan 28

Peter McNamara would have difficulty persuading the average Englishman in his suburban semi-detached home that a top tennis player's life can, at times, be miserable. But the popular Australian, who climbed from thirtieth to tenth on the computer world ranking list last year and spent some of the $278,000 he earned buying property in Tampa, Florida, and Wimbledon, knows it to be true.

In fact, after completing the second round line-up in the WCT Gold Coast tournament here last night, he admitted: "I was getting really depressed towards the end of last year and all the enjoyment disappeared from the game. It's all very well travelling to places like Florida, Mexico and the Bahamas, but I have a wife and a ten-year-old son, and I miss them when I'm on the circuit. Playing tennis can also be pretty boring at times—just like any other job."

McNamara, who is now looking for a manager-coach because "they take a lot of the aggro out of travelling and a good one would overcome my natural laziness," looked keen and sharp as he took his second round place with a 6—3, 6—4 victory over the powerful Paraguayan, Victor Pecci.

McNamara is seeded fourth for the $100,000 top prize, behind Ivan Lendl, José-Luis Clerc and Elliott Teltscher, so his success was not unexpected. Nevertheless, it was an impressive victory, achieved against a player who is ranked seventeenth in the world, holds the British hard courts title, and was playing quite well.

By coincidence, McNamara's next opponent is Balacz Taroczy, the Hungarian who lost to Pecci in the Bournemouth final last year. Taroczy defeated Bill Scanlon by 7—6, 6—3, after being behind for most of the first set. He trailed by 1—4 and, after making up the leeway, lost the first four points of the tie-break game and later survived two set points.

That, however, proved to be Scanlon's last chance of a place in the second round for Taroczy had become accustomed by then to the difficult wind which blew down the court and which had caused him so many problems earlier. The rest of the second round line-up is: Lendl v McNamee, Teltscher v Carter, Clerc v Higueras.

McEnroe is non-vintage

Philadelphia, Jan 28.—John McEnroe, the top seed, began his attempt on the $300,000 US indoor championship by defeating the unheralded Tracy Delatte, 6—3, 6—1 in a first round match here last night.

It was not a vintage performance by the 22-year-old Wimbledon and US Open Champion, against the player ranked 536th looked lazy and sluggish. Although he blamed his performance on lack of competitive matches this year and a nagging leg injury, Delatte's strong ground strokes had much to do with the match lasting 1½ hours.

McEnroe lost his opening service game to love before recovering his poise. Seven games went to deuce and the seventh game of the first set went to deuce six times.

John Sadri and Kevin Curren were both a set down before advancing to the quarterfinals. Sadri, a semi-finalist in 1980 had a 5—7, 6—4, 6—4 win over Tim Mayotte. Curren, of South Africa, beat Van Winitsky, 3—6, 6—1, 6—4.

Vitas Gerulaitis, the third seed and Sandy Mayer, seeded sixth, had less trouble. Both won in straight sets although Mayer was taken to a first set tie break by Terry Moor.

FIRST ROUND (US unless stated): J McEnroe beat T Delatte 6—3, 6—1. Second round: J Sadri beat T Mayotte 5—7, 6—4, 6—4; K Curren beat V Winitsky 3—6, 6—1, 6—4; V Gerulaitis beat S Denton 6—0, 6—4; S Mayer beat T Moor 7—6, 6—4.—Agencies.

Athletics

Injury to Sharp delays his challenge to Wells

By Norman Fox
Athletics Correspondent

Cameron Sharp, Scotland's exciting challenger to the Olympic champion, Allan Wells, has had to delay his second attempt to snatch away Wells's United Kingdom indoor best performance of 6.68sec. Sharp had hoped to improve the mark during the AAA indoor championships (sponsored by Philips) at Cosford today (6 pm) and tomorrow but he has a slight hamstring injury.

His coach, Frank Dick, who is also national director of coaching, said yesterday that the injury Sharp suffered during last weekend's Cosford Games, was not serious. However, with several other indoor meetings in the near future and the European indoor championships being held in Milan next March, he felt it was not the moment to take a risk.

Last Saturday Sharp recorded an aggressive 6.69sec in a semi-final but he had to pull out of the final which was won by Harry King, of Bracknell, in 6.77sec. King is expected to take the AAA's title tomorrow.

Like Wells, Sharp has moved south, but only for a few weeks while he is on a course in London. Wells has moved from Scotland to Surrey on a permanent basis, leaving Sharp the opportunity to win the undivided affection of the Scottish athletics followers. He hopes to run in the two British indoor matches against Belgium (February 10) and West Germany (February 19 and 20) and the European championships.

Several athletes will be spending their second successive weekend at Cosford and for a few, including Linsey Macdonald, this will be a third journey to this remote spot. Miss Macdonald had attempted to reach Cosford three weeks ago when the meeting had to be postponed because of snow.

Miss Macdonald, the little Olympic relay bronze medal winner, will be hoping this weekend brings more satisfaction than the previous visits. Last Saturday she was beaten into third place in the 200 metres.

This weekend Miss Macdonald moves up to her customary 400 metres, but on a tight 200 metres track she may find that the much more experienced Verona Elder, has the advantage. Mrs Elder has been champion seven times, although this year she has had difficulty in training because of the weather.

Although the championships will not include Sebastian Coe, who last year won the 3,000 metres, or Steve Ovett, who contrary to some reports is making satisfactory progress after his leg injury, there are some fascinating events. Not least will be the women's high jump, in which Diana Elliott, who last weekend set a United Kingdom best of 1.90 metres, competing against Ann-Marie Cording, Britain's leading outdoor competitor last season.

For the record

Basketball

EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS: Cup Winners Cup: Fifth series: Group B: Parker Leiden (Netherlands) beat Inter Bratislava 86—85. Korac Cup: Fifth series: Group D: Efes Pilsen (Turkey) beat Latte Sole (Italy) 99—93. Tours (France) beat Red Star Belgrade 106—98. KB Sibelka (Yugoslavia) beat Mavag Vasas 107—81. Ronchetti Cup: Fifth series: Group B: Spartak Moscow beat MTK Budapest 105—75. Group C: Akademik Sofia beat Montferrandaise 53—62. Vozdovac Belgrade beat ATV Linz 97—56. Group A: Slavia Prague beat Voinia Bucharest 75—70.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics 131, New York Knicks 99. Cleveland Cavaliers 110, Golden State Warriors 106; Detroit Pistons 108, Atlanta Hawks 107; Philadelphia 76ers 91, Dallas Mavericks 86; Seattle Supersonics 110, New Jersey Nets 116; San Diego Spurs 99, Phoenix Suns 92.

Biathlon

RUHPOLDING (WG): 1, F Ullrich (EG), 1hr 8min 10.0sec (including two penalty minutes); 2, V Bulygine (USSR), 1:11:48.70; 3, M Jacob (EG), 1:12:06.10 (2); 4, A Goethel (EG), 1:12:22.30 (4); 5, S Engen (Norway), 1:12:28.80 (3). World cup standings: 1, Ullrich and Jacob, 94pts; 3, Engen, 91; 4, F Fischer (WG), 90. 5, Goethel, 81.

Yesterday's results

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Orient 3, Crystal Palace 1; Tottenham Hotspur 1, Fulham 1.

Tennis

PARIS: Men's grand prix standings: 1, R Frawley (Australia); T Wilkison (US), 75pts; 3, L Bourne (US), 67; 4, R Simpson (NZ), 52; 5, J James (Australia), S Krulewitz (US), R Van't Hof (US), C Mayotte (US), 30; D Carter (Australia), L Stefanki (US).

ROSEMONT, Illinois: Women's tournament, first round (US unless stated): M Navratilova beat Y Vermaak (SA), 6—3, 4—6, 6—2; B J King beat K Jordan, 6—1, 6—1; A Jaeger beat J Russell, 6—1, 6—3; W Turnbull (Australia) beat M Louie, 6—3, 6—2; S Hanika (WG) beat P Medrado (Brazil), 6—0, 6—0. Second round: P Shriver beat P Casale, 7—5, 6—2; A Leand beat B Nagelsen, 6—2, 1—6, 6—1; H Sukova (Czechoslovakia) beat S Collins, 6—4, 6—1.

VINA DEL MAR: R Ramirez (Mexico) beat C Castellan (Argentina) 6—2, 6—4; P Rebolledo beat G Aubone (Argentina) 7—6, 6—1; P Arraya (Peru) beat A Zugarelli (Italy) 6—3, 5—7, 6—4; K Johansson (Sweden) beat R Cano (Argentina) 7—6, 6—1; C Panatta (Italy) beat J L Damiani (Uruguay) 7—6, 6—1; J Filliol beat J du Pasquier (Switzerland) 6—1, 6—7, 6—3.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 6, Washington Capitals 4; New York Islanders 6, Pittsburgh Penguins 3; Hartford Whalers 3, Calgary Flames 1; Winnipeg Jets 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 3; Edmonton Oilers 3, Chicago Black Hawks 3; Minnesota North Stars 8, Detroit Red Wings 6; Philadelphia Flyers 4, Los Angeles Kings 4; Vancouver Canucks 4, Buffalo Sabres 3.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
ndermatt	160	270	Good	Varied	Fair	Fog	−3
New snow on ice base							
rosa	130	180	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	−5
Powder on hard base							
rindelwald	20	100	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	1
Good skiing above 1,500m							
sola 2000	130	200	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	−2
Heavy snowfall during night							
lürren	90	190	Good	Good	Good	Good	−6
Excellent skiing everywhere							
Anton	210	410	Good	Powder	Fair	Fine	2
New snow on hard base							
efeld	105	140	Good	Varied	—	Cloud	−1
Powder, some icy patches							
lra	35	90	Fair	Varied	Good	Fine	−2
Thin layer of new snow							
gnes	250	300	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	−5
Powder on hard base							

the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L fers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports ve been received from Tourist Boards:

RMANY

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
hiesgaden	40	50	Pwdr	—	-3
[illegible]	70	110	Crust	—	-3
[illegible]	60	170	Pwdr	—	-2
[illegible]	50	280	Pwdr	—	-3
[illegible]	50	60	Pwdr	—	-2
rammergau	55	120	Old	—	-2
rsdorf	60	190	Wet	—	-4

ITZERLAND

	L	U	Piste	Weather	°C
lboden	40	120	Pwdr	Good	-2
ermatt	150	200	Pwdr	Good	-5
[illegible]	150	130	Pwdr	Good	-5
nwald	160	210	Pwdr	Good	-3
Champery	10	200	Pwdr	Good	0
Chateau d'Oex	10	100	Pwdr	Good	0
Disentis	80	200	Pwdr	Good	-2
Engelberg	50	150	Pwdr	Good	-3
Gstaad	40	110	Pwdr	Good	-3
Kandersteg	30	180	Pwdr	Good	-1
Lenk	35	140	Pwdr	Good	-4
Lenzerheide	90	140	Pwdr	Good	-1
Les Diablerets	55	120	Hard	Good	-2
Leysin	40	100	Hard	Good	-2
Mürren	90	150	Pwdr	Good	-4
Pontresina	50	120	Pwdr	Good	-10
Saas-Fee	80	160	Pwdr	Good	-8
St Cergue	30	90	Hard	Good	-1
St Moritz	40	100	Pwdr	Good	-6
Savognin	30	110	Pwdr	Good	-2
Villars	30	100	Hard	Good	-1
Zermatt	80	160	Pwdr	Good	-8

Sport in brief

Thumbless glove given the thumbs down

A Madison Square Garden promotion has been cancelled because four boxers have refused to wear the new thumbless gloves which are mandatory in New York State for all professional bouts except world title ones.

John Condon, president of Madison Square Garden boxing, said that Jack Prenderville, chairman of New York State Athletic Commission, told him that the promoters and boxers would face suspensions and fines if they violated the rule on the gloves which are designed to reduce eye injuries.

● Although Cameroun will not win the World Cup in Spain this summer they will be the most dazzling of the 24 finalists. Their green shirts, red shorts and yellow socks will see to that. They could cause Italy, Poland and Peru other headaches since their nickname is "The Untameable Lions".

● Rong Zhihang, aged 34, a star of Chinese football, has announced his retirement from competitive play. He will devote his time to training youngsters.

● More than 500 athletes are expected to compete in the cross-country world championships in Rome on March 21 despite the last-minute rearrangements caused by the decision of the Polish athletics authorities to withdraw from organizing the event in Warsaw.

● The Football Association are to ask UEFA to make arrangements for England's European under-21 championship quarter-final against Poland. The FA have suggested that the first leg in Poland should be played on March 17 with the return on April 7. "We cannot get through to Poland to confirm the dates", an FA spokesman said.

● The New Zealand netball team will tour England for three weeks in November. They will play matches against the regions, two against England squads and an international at Wembley Arena on Saturday, November 27.

● Belfast featherweight Seamus McGuinness has been added to Ireland's amateur boxing team for the match with Wales at Barry on Friday week. He has been selected as a second representative in that division, as Wales have no opponent for flyweight Gerry Duddy.

● Alan Minter, Britain's former world middleweight champion, who will decide his boxing future next month, unveiled his latest business venture in London yesterday—a life size wax figure of himself. The Minter look-alike, in five different wax poses, will be available for purchase by shops or businesses who want to use it for modelling purposes.

● The southern professional golf championship, staged this year at Eastbourne Downs on August 25-28, will have new sponsorship, with prize money of £20,000. The backers for this long established event, which has been won in the past by such well known players as Dai Rees, Max Faulkner and Peter Oosterhuis, are the Eastbourne company Davies and Tate.

Today's fixtures

THIRD DIVISION: Doncaster Rovers v Wimbledon (7.30).

Rugby Union
CLUB MATCH: Bristol v Camborne (7.0).

Rugby League
SECOND DIVISION: Salford v Carlisle (7.30).

Athletics
AAA/WAAA indoor championships (R.A.F. Cosford).

Badminton
Leicestershire Tournament (Leicester); Friend's Provident English National U-21 Championships (Macclesfield); Glasgow Open Championships —Premier (Cockburn Centre, Glasgow).

Rackets
Army Championships (Queen's Club).

Squash rackets
British U-23 Open Championships (Wembley Squash Centre); Army Championships (Aldershot); Guernsey Open (King's Club, Guernsey); Michael Sulers Invitation (Squash, Plymouth); Medway Open (Medway S.C.).

Snooker

Meo opens the floodgates giving Thorburn no chance

Tony Meo, of Holborn, transformed the Benson and Hedges Masters tournament at Wembley, yesterday into a game of Monopoly by beating Cliff Thorburn, of Canada, 5—0 in the quarter-final round, equalling in the process, the record break of 136 for the tournament set up last year by Terry Griffiths. Thorburn, who won the world title in 1980, scored only 62 points in five frames.

Meo's break of 136, compiled in the third frame, took only eight minutes. It consisted of 15 reds, 10 blacks, four blues, one brown and all the colours. The frame lasted only 10 minutes, and the whole match involved an hour and 10 minutes of playing time.

Thorburn was given little chance of getting into the match as Meo blazed a trail of brick building. He had 48 and 49 in the first frame, 68 in the second, 136 in the third, 62 in the fourth and 60 in the fifth, finishing the match with a clearance of 45.

When Thorburn fluked a red in the fifth frame the smile on his face suggested that at last his luck had changed. But after both players had given away four points in foul strokes, Meo reopened the floodgates to finish the match in a torrent of delightful strokes. Thorburn had offered some semblance of resistance in the first two frames, but the break of 136 killed his chances completely.

Jimmy White, aged 19, was extremely disappointed after losing his first round match by 5—4 to Eddie Charlton, the Australian champion, on Wednesday night. It was a typical story of the exhuberance of youth being overcome by the experience of an older player.

Charlton said after the match: "I arrived only two days ago after a journey of 12,000 miles. I found my form and I think I should have a good chance of beating Alex Higgins in the quarter-final round. Once I had drawn level I knew I would win."

White seemed unlikely to lose after establishing a 4—2 lead. His break of 82 in the sixth frame, made in a little under five minutes, was the best in quality seen so far. But the impulse to keep the game flowing proved his undoing. It was not so much what he missed as what he left for Charlton, who helped himself to the best offerings on the table.

The turning point of the match was the seventh frame which Charlton won by a clear margin, helped by a break of 30. A break of 61 at the start of the eighth frame enabled him to draw level at 4—4 and he took command of the deciding frame, despite a quick break of 37 by White. Charlton laid the foundation to victory with a break of 51 and emerged the winner with a clearance break of 37.

Higgins, the holder of the title, was due to meet Charlton this afternoon, but for the second time this week he failed to keep an appointment. He was due to play Steve Davis in an exhibition match at Gillingham on Wednesday night but failed to appear to the disappointment of 1,000 patrons who had paid £6 each.

Earlier in the week he did not turn out for a match in Essex against Cliff Thorburn but apologised for his lapse, saying that he had completely forgotten. This may be the effect of an overcrowded diary but the sponsors of the Masters tournament are hoping that he will not forget his appointment this afternoon.

Nick Hill, one of the directors of the tournament, spoke to Harvey Lisberg, Higgins's manager, who said that he need have no worries. "Alex will be there to defend his title."

First round: E Charlton (Australia) beat J White (England) 5—4 (Charlton first): 105—15, 39—70, 29—95, 39—70, 68—63, 29—108, 81—28, 85—15, 90—37. A Meo (England) beat C Thorburn (Canada) 5—0 (Meo first): 103—22, 87—28, 136—0, 76—7, 116—5.

Squash rackets

Chance for local lads to move up in the world

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

This was one of those rare weeks in the calendar when professional priorities pointed in no particular direction and personal preferences therefore came into play. There was a case to be argued for tennis in Florida or Philadelphia, or for squash at Wembley or a variety of other locations. But none was quite as attractive as the John Player squash tournament at St Peter Port, Guernsey.

This event, which began last evening, meets most of the conventional requirements for a satisfactory sporting festival. It is a mixed tournament with a social climate ensuring that a game can petition between distinguished players, yet in the early rounds gives aspiring youngsters a chance to measure themselves

Finally, the presence of two Guernsey-born celebrities demonstrates that the modest foundations of a little offshore island can support improbable heights of sporting achievement. The local stars, temporarily back home from their Nottingham base, are Lisa Opie, aged 18, and John le Lievre, 25.

The main women's event is essentially a showcase for Miss Opie, the world junior champion, who is already Britain's national champion, and ranks fourth in final will doubtless be Barbara the world. Her opponent in the Diggens, of Brighton, three places behind her in the world rankings. Susan Devoy (New Zealand) and Lauren Houghton and Gillian Winckler, both South Africans, will play a round-robin series from which the two most successful players will advance to join Miss Opie and Mrs Diggens in tomorrow's semi-final

Le Lievre, ranked joint 30th in the world, is seeded fifth in the men's event. When the lads have been sorted out, the inevitably cosmopolitan last eight, should read: Ross Norman v Sean Flynn, Mohamed Yasin v le Lievre, Richard Mosley v Mohibullah Khan, and Reggie Holmes v Gawain Briars.

Hockey

South capture title

By Joyce Whitehead

South 2 West 0

By beating West, on Redlands sports club ground, Weymouth yesterday the South became the 1982 National Territorial Champions. They won all their four matches, a feat last achieved in 1971 by East.

The South have won their matches decisively, beating North 2—1, Midlands 3—0, East 3—2 and West 2—0.

Considering the recent weather, the grass pitch at Redlands sports club was good, but for the first 10 minutes South had a worrying patch. They misfielded badly, and West had opportunities to score but failed to finish. South weathered the storm gathered themselves together, and Karen Brown (Surrey) scored their first goal from near the right hand goalpost after 29 minutes.

Then there was a long period of barren play with a surprising amount of inaccurate passing on both sides before Sandra Lister (Sussex) ended a barrage of shots with the South's second goal.

Motor racing

Drivers will fight fines

Paris, Jan 28.—The executive committee of the International Auto Sport Federation (FISA) fined six grand prix drivers $10,000 each today. Another 23 drivers were fined $5,000 each and all were threatened with suspension of their licences for several races over events at the South African Grand Prix last weekend.

The drivers' spokesman, Didier Pironi, said before the sanctions were announced that a majority of the drivers refused to accept any sanctions by FISA in the affair and would fight their case through civil courts if necessary.

The stiffest fines and possible suspensions weer imposed on Pironi, Alain Prost and Jacques Laffitte (France), Gilles Villeneuve (Canada) and the Italians, Bruno Giaconelli and Riccardo Patrese. Their racing licences could be withdrawn for five races any time in the next two years in the event of further breaches of the rules, the FISA president, Jean-Marie Balestre, said.—AP.

Golf

Just a five-gallon Texan

From John Ballantine
La Jolla, Jan 28

Bill Rogers, whose victory in the Open at Royal St George's last July started him off on a run of success that brought him the World Series title in Ohio in August and the Texas Open in his native state in October, and later the third place in the World Matchplay at Wentworth as well as the New South Wales Open in Australia and the Suntory Open in Japan, personifies the heart and spirit of golf.

Modest, persevering, slow in speech, manner and swing, helpful and considerate and the possessor of a dry wit, he is what many Europeans might consider a contradiction in terms; a Texas gentleman.

Patience is the virtue Rogers chooses as the highest need in golf. "You can't force things. You have to let them happen: That's the advice I always give to colleagues or pupils in this game", he drawled before teeing off in the first round of the San Diego Open here today. "If you are in the position to win often enough, things will happen."

Well, they certainly happened last year for the likable Rogers, nicknamed "Buck" after the old space fiction hero, and he ended up the season in fifth place with £157,000. He has now won four titles on the United States tour and, at 31, and with a whipcord figure of six foot and 10½st, there will be many more successes ahead.

Rogers, who made a quiet start in Phoenix last week, finishing 63rd with solid, if unspectacular play, teed off on the easier shorter north course here with Craig Stadler. Jack Nicklaus was out later on the south course, where the tournament will end on Saturday and Sunday. Nick Faldo and Peter Oosterhuis were both playing on the north links on a chilly grey morning.

Rackets/Real Tennis

Forehand errors by Aitken

Mark Nicholls, the holder, will play Giles de Lotbiniere and David Reed-Felstead, a former holder, will meet Alastair Drew in the semi-final round of the Army rackets championship at Queen's Club, London today. Nicholls will also play Michael Joynson in the final of the real tennis championship.

Drew's win over Barry Aitken, by 15—5, 11—15, 18—13, 4—15, 15—7, yesterday produced the closest singles match of the event so far.

A few mistakes from Aitken, especially on the forehand, gave Drew his chance. He served to a better length, kept the ball lower and mostly to Aitken's forehand side. With a run of nine he took the third game. The final game was similar, Drew serving out from 7—7.

RACKETS: Singles: Third round: G A J de Lotbiniere beat J A R Mains, 15—0, 15—1, 15—1; A S G Drew beat E B C Aitken, 15—5, 11—15, 18—13, 4—15, 15—7; D M Reed-Felstead beat J H S Akerman, 15—7, 15—1, 9—15, 15—10.

REGIMENTAL DOUBLES: Third round: R H G/D (D M Reed-Felstead and D T Hardy) beat RE (W I C Dobbie and J D Wooton), 11—15, 15—13, 15—2, 15—5, 15—2. RAC (G A J de Lotbiniere and E B C Aitken) beat Queen's Royal Irish Hussars (J A R Mains and A Wolstenholme), 15—1, 15—1, 15—5, 15—12; RGJ (A S G Drew and P Chamberlin) beat 17/21L (J H S Akerman and V T Westbrook), 15—11, 15—16, 15—9, 15—8, 15—11; 4/7DG (M W Nicholls and C Wright) beat 5 Inniskillen DG (J Hansom-Smith and N Lambert) 15—6, 15—4, 15—2, 17—14.

REAL TENNIS: Singles: Semi-final round: M W Nicholls beat E B C Aitken, 6—0, 6—1.

Men's lib takes to water

By Norman Fox

Men's liberation will be steered on to a new tide of popularity in March if Phillip Edwards, aged 25, a graduate studying ornithology, becomes the first male cox of Oxford's crew in the women's boat race.

Edwards, who is at Wolfson College, "has a good eye for seeing what is wrong in the boat and how to rectify it", according to the club president, Alison Walsh.

Last year Sue Brown steered Oxford to victory in the men's race. This year Edwards believes he will have similar success. He said: "I have only coxed women's crews in Oxford. I find I get on very well with women—in the boat."

Cricket

Calamitous clouds gather over England

From Richard Streeton
Bhubaneswar, Jan 28

Further black clouds gathered over the England cricket team as they travelled to Kanpur today, where the sixth and final Test match starts on Saturday. Ian Botham, with a pulled thigh muscle, and Paul Allott, who has had a particularly virulent stomach upset, are slightly doubtful for the match, which is England's last chance to level the series.

Botham injured himself when he and David Gower collided on the boundary during the one-day international in Cuttack yesterday. It was a surprise at the time that Gower got up first after the collision, which sent both men sprawling. Botham bowled three more overs in some pain later. He has had constant treatment since and it is hoped that he can play as a batsman with his thigh strapped if necessary. Whether he can make a contribution as a bowler remains to be seen.

Allott has been ill for 48 hours and has been treated by a doctor. He was barely fit to travel today and will still be extremely weak in Saturday morning. The absence of Botham and Allott from England's attack would be calamitous on what is expected to be a lifeless pitch.

Keith Fletcher, the England captain, stressed today that he did not think the defeat at Cuttack would affect his side's morale for the Kanpur Test. "Obviously it would have been better if we had won but you must keep it in perspective. I think these days you get over the disappointment of losing any one-day match far more quickly than you do after losing a Test or even a three-day game."



Fit to drive? Botham may bat with a strapped thigh.

Fletcher reiterated his personal belief that England were the better side in the Test series but admitted that India had proved themselves to be a lot stronger than he had thought would be the case. "They have an all-round strength and are going to be a good side for four or five years and could well shake one or two other people."

Turning to yesterday's one-day defeat, Fletcher said India had played really well and their gamble for quick runs from the start of their innings had come off and had enabled them to dictate to England. "We could have bowled better, we did not bowl straight enough. Gooch, apart from his last over, which was costly, bowled as straight and as well as anybody and showed what needed to be done. I am afraid the others did not bowl as well as they can."

Fletcher said it had been a good toss for India to win. The ball had seamed a lot at the start and winning the toss, he thought, was worth 50 runs at least to India.

Boycott talks delayed

Geoff Boycott last night refuted charges that he was dodging a meeting with the Yorkshire team manager, Ray Illingworth. He said he was too ill to face Yorkshire's subcommittee which has been holding an investigation into the county's affairs for four months.

A testing time for Australia

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Adelaide, Jan 28

The third and final Test match between Australia and West Indies starts here on Saturday, bringing to an end a period of intensive competition between the two teams. By next Wednesday, when they will have spent 22 of the last 39 days playing against each other, they will be glad to go their different ways.

Surprisingly though it is, Australia go into this last Test match with a lead in the series, having beaten West Indies at Melbourne just after Christmas and drawn with them at Sydney in the new year. If they were to win or draw here it would round off a not unsuccessful season for them. They have already beaten Pakistan and made a gallant recovery to reach the one-day finals, although Chappell their captain, has had such a wretched time of it.

The squabble earlier this week between Lillee and Hughes showed that they need a break. Hughes observation that it was time to scour the beaches for some young, fast bowlers was answered by Lillee in his newspaper column and caused some discontent within the team.

There is nothing to be said for players being allowed to write or ghost newspaper articles. Day after day Chappell has felt obliged to say in his, that he has not been playing badly, so much as getting out, or to claim that his captaincy has never been better.

"Hughes," wrote Lillee "is pointing the bone in the wrong direction. I have bowled my guts out for Australia this summer and I know Thommo and all the other boys have. I wish I could say the same about our batting line up." To have much chance here in Adelaide Australia will have to pull together better than this.

West Indies are sure to play four fast bowlers again, with Croft or Marshall probably coming in for Clarke, who has been in the one-day side. It means no let-up for Australia's batsmen. Harold Joseph, the one specialist spinner in the West Indian party, has had only two first-class games on the tour, the second of which finished on December 9.

He appears occasionally with the drinks, or with a fresh pair of gloves for a perspiring batsman. Knowing how well and interestingly he can bowl — he shot England out, playing for Trinidad this time last year — I am sorry not to see him given a chance to bamboozle the Australians.

For the first time for three weeks the teams will be dressed in white, as an indication that they are cricketers again and not buskers. A propos of that, at the Sydney cricket ground on Tuesday, during one of the day/night matches I overheard the reaction of a middle-aged man, arriving late, when he came round a corner and saw for the first time the Australians fielding in yellow. "Gee, isn't that colourful," he exclaimed. He was on the band-wagon, living proof that the two matches must find the balance that is of benefit to each.

Having had little chance of watching the West Indies this season, the people of Adelaide are expected to flood to the Test Match. If they stay away it will be bad news. Both sides have everything to play for. Though not a full Test series, the Australians will feel a proper sense of achievement if they can win it.

If West Indies should be beaten the claim that they are the best side in the world will not be quite so incontestable. Given a pitch with pace and bounce, the West Indians should win. On one of the old Adelaide featherbeds, Australia ought not to lose.

For players who have been thinking and playing and talking and dreaming one-day cricket since the last Test ended on January 6, the change of tempo will not be easily accomplished. This is one of the arguments for separating the two types of cricket on an Australian tour. Jack Nicklaus would no more be asked to prepare for an Open golf championship with a succession of hectic rounds, played to oblige television, than the world's best cricketers should be asked to slog one day and nail their colours to the mast the next.

However, we shall surely see some fine cricket. There will be no question this time of the West Indians throwing in the towel, as they did when they played here six years ago. They have grown up since then.

Sound David Graveney

David Graveney has been appointed captain of Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, as was expected. He did the job very capably last season, after Procter was injured. A thoughtful and intelligent man, and a good cricketer, Graveney has an impressive record as a slow left-arm bowler and I would expect him to have 10 years before him, if he chooses to stay so long in the game (he was born in 1953).

He also bats well. His father, Ken, and his uncle, Tom, were always disagreeing about whether he was a likelier prospect as a batsman or a bowler, but as they kept changing opinions it was not much guidance for the lad. Both of the seniors were cricket captains, Ken for Gloucestershire, Tom for Gloucestershire and Worcestershire (in the later part of his career). Tom also once captained England. I am sure that David will do the job very soundly and courteously.

It was a touch sad that his appointment has involved his father's resignation as county chairman. He has held this post for six years, years which have seen a transformation of the Bristol ground and Gloucestershire's financial fortunes. It was he, a businessman, who was largely responsible for the agreement with the Phoenix Insurance Company which saved the county at a time of trouble, indeed secured the future of Gloucestershire cricket.

It was his cheerful face, first as captain and later as chairman, that kept up Gloucestershire's spirits in the bad times.

He will stay on the committee, but the Club Council decided that it would be improper for him to remain as chairman. Well, there is a case for that. His successor, a Mr Don Perry, from Cheltenham, is quoted as saying: "There has been a growing feeling among members that David might encounter difficulties if he took over while his father was chairman . . . But should we experience a bad season at any time, the captain is the first to be criticized. And, naturally, the public will say he only got the job because of his father."

As a matter of fact, I cannot think of many Gloucestershire supporters who would say anything of the kind. Anyone who knows the Graveneys (or "gravities" as a Mayor of Cheltenham once called them in a happy malapropism) also knows that, though an affectionate family, they are their own men. David would always be prepared to take advice from father and uncle, but he is not a man who would accept dictation.

England lead challenge to play Australia

Wellington, Jan 28.—Australia clinched their place in the final of the women's World Cup when they beat New Zealand by 69 runs today.

Australia have now won all eight games and lead the standings in the five-team tournament with 32 points. England, second on 22 points, and New Zealand, third with 18, lead the challenge to play Australia in the final.

Australia's success today was inspired initially by a fourth wicket partnership of 105 in 94 minutes between Sharyn Hill, who hit 76, and Karen Read with 46. They repaired a disastrous start of 13 for three and lifted the score to 170 for eight in the quota of 60 overs. New Zealand's hopes slumped when six wickets tumbled for 34 in a middle order collapse caused by Lynette Fulliston's five for 27.

India gained their third win in eight games when they beat the International XI by 78 runs.

RESULTS. Australia 170 for eight (60 overs): New Zealand 101 all out (56.1 overs). Australia won by 69 runs. India 154 for eight (60 overs); International XI 76 all out (32.3) overs. India won by 78 runs.

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Australia	8	8	0	0	32
England	9	5	1	3	22
New Zealand	9	4	1	4	18
India	8	3	0	5	12
International XI	8	0	0	8	0

Rugby League

Holdstock out of cup-ties

By Keith Macklin

Millions of BBC viewers last Saturday saw Roy Holdstock, the Hull Kingston Rovers prop forward, hurl himself at Charlie Stone, the Hull captain, during a late melee. Both were dismissed from the field by the referee, Fred Lindop, and yesterday Holdstock was suspended for six matches, while Stone Received a two-match ban.

The severe punishment meted out to Holdstock, who will now miss important Challenge Cup ties, was the result not merely of his impetuous action but also a reflection of his disciplinary record.

Front row forwards were much in evidence at yesterday's hearing, which was remarkable for the fact that no hookers appeared charged with technical offences in the scrum. Tommy Cunningham, the Warrington hooker, was suspended for three matches for foul play, and two prop forwards, Glyn Shaw (Wigan) and Bob Eccles (Warrington), were suspended for two matches each. Paul Ringer, the Cardiff City and *former Wales Rugby Union* international, was banned for one game after receiving two cautions.

Among the backs who appeared before the committee, Phil Butler, of Featherstone Rovers, received the most severe punishment with a four-match suspension. John Bevan, of Warrington, another international player at both codes, will miss one match.

SUSPENSIONS: Six matches: R Holdstock (Hull KR); Four: P Butler (Featherstone Rovers); Three: T Cunningham (Warrington); Two: G Shaw (Wigan), B Eccles (Warrington), C Stone (Hull); One: J Bevan (Warrington), T Rose (Huddersfield), J Johnson (Huddersfield), T Ringer (Cardiff City), J Lightfoot (Workington Town).

Gifford refuses terms

Norman Gifford, aged 41, a Worcestershire cricketer since 1958, has refused terms for next season and Lancashire are interested in his services. The former England left-arm spin bowler captained Worcestershire from 1971 to 1980 before giving way to Glenn Turner. He has taken nearly 1,760 first class wickets.

Chappell doubt: The Australian Cricket Board will announce the captain for the forthcoming tour of New Zealand on Saturday.

Although Greg Chappell said this week he wanted to keep the captaincy, his wretched batting form this summer has improved the chances of either Kim Hughes or wicket keeper Rodney Marsh taking over.

Cycling

Roche should repeat overall win

By John Wilcockson

An unusual beginning and a traditional finish are the main features of the 1982 Paris-Nice race, the route of which was announced in Paris this week.

The seven-stage, 710-mile race, which takes place from March 11-18, will give every opportunity for Stephen Roche, of Ireland, to repeat his overall victory of last year. Roche will be leading the French team, Peugeot-Shell, which is also likely to include the Englishmen, Graham Jones and Sean Yates, and the Australian, Philip Anderson.

Both Yates and Roche will be strong contenders to win the 3.5 miles prologue time trial, which takes place in Belgium, at Luingne, a few miles across the frontier from Lille.

After this brief effort, the 15 teams will be transported 160 miles across north eastern France to start the opening road race stage at Chalons-sur-Marne.

Another journey by roads, this time of 100 miles, is demanded before the second stage, 130 miles from Avallon to Montluçon. It is only at this point, that this unconventional route returns to its more familiar course to Nice.

A new season starts on Monday as owner-trainer maps out ambitious programme for his outstanding hunter chaser

Stamina-blessed Grittar aims for the top

No one who saw Grittar *storm home* in both the Cheltenham and the Liverpool Foxhunters last year will have been surprised by the news that Frank Gilman's hunter chaser is to be aimed at the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National in which he is weighted at 11st 5lb.

It requires no great feat of the imagination to visualize Grittar and Dick Saunders succeeding where Spartan Missile and John Thorne so narrowly failed at Aintree last March.

Dick Saunders did surprise me, however, when he said at the reception to launch the RMC Group's new sponsorship that he thought Grittar might have more chance in the Gold Cup than in the National. The reason was certainly not that Grittar would fail to stay the four and half miles at Liverpool — he stays for ever — but that the going was much more likely to be soft or heavy at Cheltenham in March, than at Aintree in April.

"Grittar goes through the mud just as he gallops on good going," Saunders said. "It doesn't seem to make the slightest difference to him."

Grittar's half-brother Towtame, also owned and trained by Frank Gilman, is the exact opposite and must have a sound surface to produce his best form. Both horses have wintered well, but Grittar generally needs a race to reach peak fitness.

At this time last year there were *widespread* fears in the hunt racing world that professionally-trained horses might make a clean sweep of the most coveted prizes. In the event these fears proved groundless.

Horses from licensed trainers' yards took only 14 of the 119 hunter chases contested, and only three of the 41 races worth over £1,000 to the winner. If my mathematics (or rather my borrowed pocket calculator's) are correct, the 105 races won by amateur-trained horses netted their owners just over £115,000, compared with just over £13,000, won by those professionally trained.

Roadhead, trained by Josh Gifford, and ridden by the accomplished, but relatively inexperienced Margaret Smith, won four hunter chases worth a total of £4,334. Sun Lion, trained by Nick Henderson, won the Range Rover Trophy at Cheltenham, worth £2,019. The amateur-trained Grittar earned £13,846 from his four vitories.

The licensed trainers' challenge may, however, be more formidable this year. Among the well-known steeplechasers, which have *been newly* qualified as hunter chasers, are the first three home in the 1979 Grand National: Rubstic (S. Leadbetter), Zongalero (N. Henderson) and Rough and Tumble (F. Winter), which went one better and finished second in 1980. The 1978 Gold Cup winner, *Midnight* Court, now 11 years old, has also been qalified for Fred Winter.

Barry Brazier tells me that Rolls Rambler, off the course last year a star of 1980, is quite sound again. He has enjoyed his hunting, which seemed to settle him down. Shannon Bridge, he says, has also wintered well.

The outstanding hunter chaser in Scotland is still Mr W. G. Macmillan's Queensberry Lad, undefeated in seven hunter chases North of the border.

Other horses who should be challenging for top honours are Persian Scimiter *and Honourable* Man, a creditable second to Gritter in the Cheltenham Foxhunters. My selection for that race, Persian Scimitar, fell at the sixth fence, but later proved that he could jump the stiff Cheltenham course by winning the Land Rover Trophy at the evening meeting there in May. Persian Scimitar performs best on a sound surface.

Finally, some news from the Chesterton Stud in Warwickshire, where John Thorne has bred three Missiles: Polaris, Spartan and Cruise. Having heard that the maestro had broken a leg, I inquired anxiously whether his injury would put him out of action for the season. I should have know better than to ask a silly question.

"Oh no," he said, shocked by the idea. "It happened some time ago, you know, about eight weeks. I shall start riding again in a fortnight." Of such stuff are living legends made.

Spartan Missile, Thorne told me, had a split tendon operation and was *then fired*, but although he will not be raced this season, he is making a good recovery and should return in 1983.

Meanwhile, his six-year-old half-brother Cruise Missile has been qualified as a hunter. Back with John Thorne's son-in-law, Nick Henderson, he will run in a few novice steeplechases before the Cheltenham Festival, and will *then be ridden by his owner* in hunter chases.

He is well bred, being by Bend-a-Bow, a son of Never Bend, as is Mill Reef. Cruise Missile is an entire horse, and John Thorne would like him to establish credentials for use as a stallion at Chesterton, "But they don't always take to jumping fences, do they," he reminded me.

Cruise Missile has, however, already won a novice chase, at Kempton earlier this season, as well as three *hurdle races. His dam,* Polaris Missile, won the "amateurs' Grand National", the four-mile National Hunt Steeplechase at Cheltenham. So, with speed and stamina in his pedigree, Cruise could one day excel Polaris or even Spartan Missile.

By Ian Reid

Racing

Corduroy gets Beasley off mark

The former Irish champion National Hunt jockey Bobby Beasley celebrated his first success as a trainer in this country when Corduroy beat the odds-on Another Generation in the Offord Hurdle (Div 1) at Huntingdon yesterday.

Beasley said: "To have come to England and train a winner is as good as winning a Gold Cup." He is one of the few riders ever to have brought off the Grand National, Gold Cup and Champion Hurdle treble.

In fact Beasley rode more than 800 winners, he was champion of Ireland in 1960 and later finished runner-up to Stan Mellor in this country.

He said: "After I gave up riding, I started training in Ireland, and then my stable was hit by the virus for three seasons. It finally finished me off and last year I came over to England and opened stables at Nutley, in East Sussex."

Curduroy won at the rewarding odds of 20-1 and will go Flat racing again later this year, as Beasley needs only three more Flat horses to be granted a licence under both rules.

Moans from a winning trainer are rare indeed, but David Gandolfo was complaining before his Almighty Zeus had reached the winner's enclosure after a 20-length defeat of Wendys Whizz Kid in the Wyton Novices Steeplechase.

Gandolfo said "Although I've won, something should be done about the last two fences. You want an event horse, not a *racehorse, to* win. They are trappy, and horses do not jump them with any sort of rhythm. They fell like flies at these jumps at the last meeting here."

There had been complaints after that previous meeting, and Hugo Bevan, the clerk of the course, said "The running rail the second — last fence has been moved out considerably as a result of the falls at our last meeting. The reason was to get the horses going straight at that jump. The breast of the fence was shaved off to reduce the stiffness."

Alick may steal thunder from behind the cloud

By Dick Hinder

At first glance, it looked as though a dark cloud was hanging over Peter Easterby's Yorkshire stable after racing last Saturday. Little Owl's headstrong antics at Kempton Park had cause quite a stir, while at Haydock, Jimbrook, Starfen, Night Nurse, Prominent King, Realt Na Nona and Clayside were all eclipsed.

Even the blackest cloud is meant to have a silver lining, however, and the Great Habton stable must have been well satisfied with the running of their Schweppes Gold Trophy hope, *Starfen, who was fast* catching Gaye Chance at the finish of the Haydock Champion Hurdle Trial. Night Nurse, too, was far from disgraced, attempting to concede 19lb to Michael Dickinson's rising young steeplechaser, Bregawn.

Easterby did, in fact, have a winner on Saturday which passed almost unnoticed. Alick, ridden by Alan Brown, ran away from his rivals in the Darlington Handicap Steeplechase at Catterick Bridge and reappears in the Barnby Moor Handicap Chase at Doncaster today.

Alick has to carry a 4lb-penalty for his recent 15-length victory, but is clearly in such fine fettle that he may complete a double at the expense of front-running Saint Fillans and My Buck.

Saint Fillans' fine run of seven consecutive victories came to and end at Ascot in November when he fell at the eleventh fence in the race won by Wayward Lad. His trainer, Maurice Camacho, will be looking for a clear round to restore his confidence, but the fully fit Alick gets slight preference.

Michael Seely drew attention to Lulav's chances when the four-year-old made a winning first appearance over hurdles at Kempton last Friday. David Nicholson brings Lulav out for the Rossington Main Novices' Hurdle and he must have a bright chance of scoring again.

It is interesting that Nicholson has chosen a race not just restricted to four-year-olds for Lulav's second test, which means he has to compete against two above-average five-year-olds, the Cheltenham winner Gaye Brief, trained by the in-form Mercy Rimell, and Peter Easterby's Ryeman, a wayward character who has ability.

Lulav, earmarked with stable *companion* Goldspun for the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle, should make the most of his weight concession from Gaye Brief, and score again in convincing style.

Mercy Rimell, who has done so well with her novice steeplechasers this week, may be in the winner's enclosure again with Wellfort in the Sandall Beat Novices' Handicap Chase and Apple Wine, who sprang a 33-1 surprise for Mick Easterby at Catterick Bridge last Friday, may carry on the good work in the January Handicap Hurdle.

Nicholson: Interesting choice

At Ayr, the Irish trainer, Bill Durkan, who has gained prominence through his handling of that fine mare Anaglogs Daughter, can take the Girvan Handicap Steeplechase for the second year running with Carrow Boy. Roger Fisher's Ballydurrow has a good opportunity of winning the second division of the Barr Novices Hurdle.

Triska gives Dennis fine return

The promising young rider Richard Dennis won the Haig Whisky Hurdle qualifier on Triska at Taunton yesterday, his first success since fracturing his skull in September.

Dennis, aged 17, had gained nine winners until his first flight accident on Ring Tin Tin at Devon and Exeter on September 25, but he showed his confidence was unimpaired by the injury and three months lay-off, with a comfortable one-length victory.

Another winning teenager was the amateur Norman Babbage, but his victory on Rich Encounter in the first division of the Novices steeplechase was a painful experience. As he dismounted in the winner's enclosure, Rich Encounter lashed out and caught him on the knee

The third division of the Novices Steeplechase was won easily by the Wincanton winner, Easter Carnival who gave Paul Richards his tenth winner of the season and consolation for a big disappointment on John's Present, 9-4 favourite for the Fresh Start Novices hurdle.

Turning into the straight for the first time, John's Present went completely out of control when the bit slipped through his mouth, and he ran out at the third flight. The race went to 10-1 chance Janus, who was jumping in public for the first time.

Janus raced to the front turning into the straight to score by three lengths and give the Chichester trainer, Nadine Smith her first winner this season away from Fontwell Park.

All her previous eight winners have been on her local course.

Mrs Pamela Sykes saddled her first Taunton winner on her third visit when Spartan Major, well ridden by Sam Morshead, defied top weight in the Winter Handicap steeplechase.

Doncaster programme

1.30 SELBY HURDLE (Selling: £1,908: 2¼m) (19 runners)

1 0040 ALFRED MILNER (R Ap Harri) R Stubbs 5-11-7 ... D Wilkinson
2 0010 AMBERUSH (D) (Mrs J Smith) P Ashworth 5-11-7 ... —berry 4
3 4000-20 CHAMPERS CLUB (Inngood Ltd) D Weeden 5-11-7 ... K Townend 7
4 u0042- "C" TOP (B Stamper) A Smith 5-11-7 ... C Grant
6 00 MISS GENEROUS (M Llewellyn) M Camacho 5-11-7 ... J O'Neill
7 12 MONT-A-L'ABBE (W Elsey) W Elsey 5-11-7 ... G Holmes
8 0-0020 NATIVE BREAK (R Morris) Mr W Sykes 5-11-7 ... S Morshead
9 0-31100 NINE NORTH ROAD (HbArron) C James 5-11-7 ... G McNally
11 00210-0 PARKSTONE QUAY (R Potterill) R Woodhouse 5-11-7 ... P Tuck
12 010013- PLATTS PIECE (D) (C Brown) A Smith 5-11-7 ... A Dickman
13 0 ROYSIA (F Jordan) F Jordan 5-11-7 ... C Smith
15 012-0 WELL GREASED (B Moon) W Holden 5-11-7 ... A Coogan
17 0113 ALLIED CARDIFF (Miss L Blum) G Blum 4-10-7 ... J Barlow
18 0 COPT AGAIN (Mrs V Cooke) R Hollinshead 4-10-7 ... C Astbury
19 10 COUSIN SARAH (G Santorsola) D Garraton 4-10-7 ... P A Charlton
20 CRIMSON FLASH (Mrs J Skelton) S Norton 4-10-7 ... G Graham
22 40 POLIPUTER (G Harman) G Harman 4-10-7 ... P Harman 7
23 01u SANDMOOR COURT (D) (Mrs M Tinkler) N Tinkler 4-10-7 ... N Tinkler
24 000 SUNSPEED (J Kettlewell) J Kettlewell 4-10-7 ... S Kettlewell 7

11-4 Mont-A-L'Abbe, 4 Native Break, 11-2 Sandmoor Court, 6 Well Greased, 13-2 Platts Piece, 8 Nine North Road, 10 others.

2.0 SANDALL BEAT (Novices handicap: 2m 150yd) (8)

3 1110-12 WELLFORT (W Greenwood) Mrs M Rimmell 8-11-8 ... S Morshead
6 20p2/2f PAPER RICH (G Tanner) G Blum 8-11-0 ... S Smith-Eccles
9 0-f102s SHOW ROSE (Mrs J Burdon) N Crump 7-10-11 ... C Hawkins
10 3030-01 BIV (Sir D Hill-Wood) Miss A Hill-Wood 7-10-7 ... P Tuck
11 000-403 SALDATORE (Mrs M Skinner) D Morley 5-10-4 ... B R Davies
13 04-0042 KINDLED SPIRIT (G Clarke) W Mann 7-10-1 ... A Webb
14 440-040 KING TUD (B) (N Chamberlain) N Chamberlain 8-10-0 ... C Grant
16 p4p030 MISTY BAY (Mrs S Lamyman) Mrs S Lamyman 8-10-0 ... J Suthern

4-5 Wellfort, 7-2 Show Rose, 15-2 Paper Rich, 10 Biv, 12 Saldatore, 14 others.

2.30 ROSSINGTON MAIN HURDLE (Novices: 2m 150yd) (16)

2 113112 RYEMAN (B) (D Slater) M H Easterby 5-11-2 ... J O'Neill
4 131 GAYE BRIEF (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) Mrs M Rimmell 5-1-7 ... S Morshead
7 0-12414 HAVERHILL LAD (Mrs B Tanner) G Blum 8-11-4 ... S Smith-Eccles
12 0 ABU TORKEY (J Blundell) J Blundell 5-11-2 ... C Grant
14 0-40300 HARFORD (Monmore Auto Spares) W Clay 5-11-2 ... N Clay
15 0 JONDALE (S Tennant) A Smith 5-11-2 ... A Dickman
16 4000- JUBILEE LIGHTS (Mrs D Weller) J Townson 5-11-2 ... R Crank
17 004200 LAURIUM (H Insley) Clay 5-11-2 ... Diane Clay
18 NAVIGATIONAL AID (S Spindler) W Clay 5-11-2 ... A Coogan
19 320110 POWDER HORN (J Barr) Mrs J Barr 5-11-2 ... Mrs A Gray
20 134013 SEA MERCHANT (T P McDonagh Civil Engineering) W A Stephenson 5-11-2 ... Mr E McIntyre
21 1 LULAV (C Gaventa) D Nicholson 4-10-7 ... P Scudamore
23 00f HALMEROF (Ulceby Farms) J Blundell 4-10-2 ... D Dutton
24 000p PANTO ISLAND (C Ratcliffe) C Ratcliffe 4-10-2 ... Mr C Ratcliffe
26 1210 SUJONO (L Payne) M Scudamore 4-10-2 ... H Davies
27 0012 TORREMODO (Mrs I Anderton A W Jones 4-10-2 ... A Brown

11-8 Lulav, 3 Gaye Brief, 7-2 Ryeman, 10 Haverhill Lad, Sujono, 20 others.

3.0 WARDS' BREWERY CHASE (£1,342: 3m 122yd) (15)

2 111130 CONNA VALLEY (Queyle Carpets) D Nicholson 7-11-8 ... P Scudamore
5 0/10240 PIRATE JACK (J Ramsden) N Crump 10-11-5 ... C Hawkins
7 030-001 WINNING BRIEF (M O'Grady) M Naughton 7-11-5 ... G Bradley
8 0234pp ANITACAT (Miss L Wood) J Webber 7-11-0 ... A Webber
9 100210- ASHLEY HOUSE (J McLoughlin) M Dickinson 8-11-0 ... R Earnshaw
12 2-00003 CELTIC RAMBLER (N P D Ltd) Mrs M Rimmell 7-11-0 ... S Morshead
13 0-bf04r COCKED HAT TRADER (Cocked Hat Farm Foods) N Crump 7-11-0 ... M Stephens 7
14 0000f DAILY SERENADE (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-0 ... Mr P Hughes 7
15 0f2-4p DAVEY VIEW (M Shone) G Fairbairn 8-11-0 ... C Grant
20 0f-00ff MATEY (B) (P Jordon) W Clay 9-11-0 ... N Clay
22 4234 OSSOLIN (S Dyrhoff) M Scudamore 8-11-0 ... J Suthern
23 PEG'S BOY (Mrs C Carr) N Bycroft 6-11-0 ... D Wilkinson
24 0 REGAL REBEL (R Woodhouse) R Woodhouse 7-11-0 ... Mr R Woodhouse
27 0-000 SORRENTO BLUE (Mrs S Lamyman) Mrs Lamyman 8-11-0 ... A Webb
28 200p/02 SPACE BABY (Mrs D Bowlby) M H Easterby 7-11-0 ... A Brown

9-4 Conna Valley, 10-3 Space Baby, 5 Celtic Rambler, 6 Ashley House, 10 Winning Brief, 14 Davey View, 16 others.

3.30 BARNBY MOOR CHASE (Handicap: £2,201: 2½m) (11)

2 111-11f SAINT FILLIANS (D) (R Wilson) M Camacho 8-11-10 ... J O'Neill
3 411442 MY BUCK (T Curry) M Dickinson 10-11-7 ... G Bradley
4 0p0-331 ALICK (C) (S Childs) M H Easterby 7-11-3 (4ex) ... A Brown
5 0-41121 HARVEST DAY (D) (Mrs K Robinson) A Smith 11-11-1 ... A Dickman
10 003010 MID DAY GUN (D) (J Webber) J Webber 8-10-9 ... Mr P Webber
12 420f24 STARLIGHT LAD (R Bethell) R Bethell 8-10-6 ... C Grant
16 01001-f STRAIGHT CASH (Mrs E Skelles) Mrs W Sykes 9-10-0 ... S Morshead
19 0r-0f30 AUKLAND JACK (D) (Mrs D Plunkett) B Armytage 8-10-0 ... A Webber
20 p3113-2 REPIQUE (Mrs Earl Jones) Earl Jones 8-10-0 ... R F Davies
21 421-00u LONDON JOURNAL (D) (Mrs M Jarvis) A Jarvis 7-10-0 ... J Burke
22 3p0-030 PAMPAS DEMON (B) (B Temple) B Temple 9-10-0 ... K Whyte

2 Saint Fillans, 11-4 My Buck, 3 Alick, 6 Harvest Day, 8 Repique, 10 Mid Day Gun, 14 others.

4.0 JANUARY HURDLE (Handicap: £1,360: 2m 150yd) (14)

1 11b0-p1 APPLE WINE (CD) (Mrs A Sigworth) M W Easterby 5-12-0 (4 ex) ... J O'Neill
2 11130-0 HIGH OLD TIME (Dickins Ltd) S Mellor 6-11-10 ... P Blacker
3 024204 FRANCISCUS (J Marshall) A Jarvis 5-11-2 ... J Burke
4 2400-32 NIGHT WATCH (P Mellon) I Balding 8-11-2 ... B Reilly
5 00-0000 CHINA GOD (Mrs M White) W D Francis 9-11-0 ... P Scudamore
6 100-220 FOR GOOD (C) (Ld Cadogan) N Crump 5-10-10 ... C Hawkins
11 310104 COMMERCE (R Barr) R Barr 7-10-4 ... M Pepper 7
12 21d1 RACONTEUR (E Robbins) M H Easterby 5-10-0 ... Mr T Easterby
13 10b040/ BORN TO REASON (Mrs G Poole) Mrs M Rimmell 6-10-0 ... S Morshead
15 21-00 MILLFIELD LAD (E Peary) M H Easterby 5-10-0 ... D Dutton 4
17 110012 GARTH BOY (T Bell) J Jefferson 6-10-0 ... P Caldwell 7
18 3130-00 JANE ROY (J Roy) M W Easterby 5-10-0 ... P Tuck
21 0p-0000 JEAN MARJORIE (B) (L Sloan) J Kettlewell 7-10-0 ... S Kettlewell
22 00/0-03 VIRIBUS (T Peake) Earl Jones 6-10-0 ... R F Davies

5-2 Night Watch, 7-2 For Good, 5 High Old Time, 11-2 Apple Wine, 7 Raconteur, 10 Franciscus, 14 others.

Doncaster selections

1.30 Well Greased 2.0 Wellfort 2.30 Lulav 3.0 Conna Valley 3.30 Alick 4.0 Apple Wine

Ayr programme

1.45 BARR HURDLE (Div. 1: Novices: £779: 2m) (10 runners)

2 340b10 MR PONGEE (D) F Storey) (F Storey)7-11-7 ... Mr B Storey 7
6 4030220 IMPERIAL AMBER (B) (Mrs M Corrie) M Naughton 6-11-0 ... Mr T G Dun
7 000- IMPERIAL BLACK (T Webster) D McCain 6-11-0 ... D Goulding
11 43f SUPER SOLO (A M Davidson Ltd) G Richards 6-11-0 ... R Barry
12 000p VULTOP (Miss Z Green) Miss Z Green 7-11-0 ... Mr L Hudson 4
14 0- BILLSBAY (R Dixon) R Dixon 5-10-13 ... D Johnston 7
16 00 BYCLOUGH BOY (R Allan) R Allan 5-10-13 ... S Charlton
19 LOCH BRANDY (Mrs J Niven) J Haldane 5-10-13 ... R Lamb
20 30 MARK EDELSON (T Caldwell) J Jefferson 5-10-13 ... N Doughty
22 002430 VIMYS PET (T Barnes) T Barnes 5-10-13 ... M Barnes

15-8 Super Solo 3 Mark Edelson 9-2 Vimys Pet 6 Imperial Amber, 8 Mr Pongee 12 Billsbay 20 Others.

2.15 GIRVAN CHASE (Handicap: £2,015: 2m) (8)

1 30p CARROW BOY (CD) (W Durkan) W Durkan (IRE) 10-12-2 ... G Newman
3 0e1100 BANNOW BREEZE (D) (J Burke) M Naughton 10-10-3 ... —
5 f40404 WHY SO (D) (F Soudavar) G Richards 9-10-0 ... N Doughty
8 30-f103 POLARS SMARTIE (CD) (R Goldie) R Goldie 11-10-0 ... R Lamb
10 031/0-0 GREEN DANCER (J Liste) R Johnson 7-10-0 ... D McCaskill 4
11 2240-10 PEWTER SPEAR (CD) (R Hamer) D McCain 9-10-0 ... —
13 2p/ufp0 SUPREME SAIL (D) (V Thompson) V Thompson 11-10-0 ... Mr M Thompson 7
14 12-4003 AVALANCHE (D) (J Henderson) J Henderson 7-10-0 ... M Barnes

7-4 Carrow Boy. 10-3 Bannow Breeze, 4 Why So, 6 Polars Smartie, 8 Pewter Spear, 10 Avalanche, 16 others.

2.45 SPITTAL HILL CHASE (Handicap: £2,096: 3m 110yd) (8)

2 /00424- THREE TO ONE (J Manners) K Oliver 11-11-10 ... Mr T G Dun
3 4-0p013 KING VULTURE (C Masterson) G Richards 9-11-8 ... N Doughty
4 30222/p WAGNER (P Piller) W A Stephenson 12-11-7 ... R Barry
8 1-0413b ROBBIE'S PARK (C) (M Caira) K Oliver 8-10-10 ... —
10 /p00-p0 DALLOWAY (N Ramsay) W D Fairgrieve 10-10-6 ... D Nolan
12 0-32021 CHURCHHILL PEAK (B) (Mrs A Brown) W A Stephenson 8-10-5 ... R Lamb
14 220-033 GENERAL BRUNO (CD) (F Gibbon) F Gibbon 12-10-3 ... Mr D Metcalfe
15 043023 TRICHROMATIC (Mrs H Johnson) R Johnson 10-10-1 ... D McCaskill 4

9-4 King Vulture, 3 Churchill Peak, 4 General Bruno, 5 Three to One, 13-2 Wagner, 8 Robbie's Park, 10 Trichromatic, 16 Dalloway.

3.15 STRAITON HURDLE (Handicap: £1,366: 2½m) (13)

1 4f1100 MR SNOW (CB) (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 7-11-10 ... T G Davies 4
3 00000f ENGLERSEF (D) (Mrs W Durkan) W Durkan (Ire) 5-11-4 ... G Newman
4 3-41030 SHALOTRA (D) (F Lafferty Co Ltd) T Craig 6-11-3 ... Mr T G Dun
5 0-2221 HOT PRETENCE (C) (D Hodgson) J S Wilson 5-11-2 ... A Stringer 4
7 a10420 GLORY SNATCHER (CD) (Triumph Properties) G Richards 8-11-1 ... Mr K Darby
8 3-30300 SANDICLIFFE (V Thompson) V Thompson 7-11-0 ... Mr M Thompson 7
9 4-02f03 REAY'S SONG (D) (T Amies) M Naughton 8-11-0 ... J Harris 4
15 p12403 ESSEX (F Markland) D McCain 7-10-8 ... N Doughty
16 00p-043 NODANA (D) (Mrs M Cambell) T Craig 6-10-8 ... R Lamb
18 0010-00 FERNEZ (H McConnell) H McConnell 7-10-8 ... Mrs A Robertson
19 1-f0040 WITCHIN (J Henderson) J Henderson 8-10-5 ... C Pimlott
20 00210/0 YELLOW STAR (R Wilson) T Barnes 9-10-5 ... M Barnes
21 0/10400 ARTSUM (D) (A Brotherston) R Allan 7-10-3 ... S Charlton

3 Reay's Song, 4 Shalotra, 5 Essex, 6 Mr Snow, 7 Nodana, 8 Hot Pretence, 10 Sandicliffe, 12 Englersef, 20 others.

3.45 SORN CHASE (Novices handicap: £1,480: 2m) (7)

2 f3e024 MASTER PIPER (J Banks) J Jefferson 6-11-2 ... C Pimlott
4 220301 CLOWN COURT (D) (R Henriques) J Berry 7-11-0 ... —
7 Cp0023 KEREN PARK (J Richardson) W A Stephenson 8-10-5 ... R Lamb
9 3224-0u AUTUMN GLOW (B) (G Richards) G Richards 9-10-4 ... N Doughty
11 2002-00 SPARTAN RED (H McConnell) H McConnell 12-10-0 ... Mrs A Robertson
12 00-10p4 LORD MELBOURNE (A Bell) J S Wilson 8-10-0 ... —
13 4fe-040 BALLET MASTER (Lord Harlech) A W Jones 9-10-0 ... S Keightley 4

5-2 Clown Court, 3 Keren Park, 9-2 Master Piper, 6 Lord Melbourne, 8 Autumn Glow, 10 Spartan Red, 12 Ballet Master.

4.15 BARR HURDLE (Div II: £753: 2m) (7)

2 301 BALLYDURROW (D) (N Rogers) R Fisher 5-11-6 ... K Teelan 7
9 f00/0 MICKCONE (J Henderson) J Henderson 7-11-0 ... A Stringer 4
10 04000/ STARMASE (R Wilson) T Barnes 7-11-0 ... M Barnes
14 0f0 DUKES GOLD (D Rimmer) G Richards 5-10-13 ... R Barry
15 04 GREENBANK PARK (H Lister) D McCain 5-10-13 ... C Pimlott
18 f23303 RENREBO (Westwood Garages) M Naughton 5-10-13 ... Mr T G Dun
20 0000 WILLERBY (W Burns) T Craig 5-10-13 ... R Lamb

4-6 Ballydurrow, 7-2 Greenbank Park, 4 Renrebo, 12 Dukes Gold, 20 others.

Ayr selections

1.45 Super Solo 2.15 Carrow Boy 2.45 King Vulture 3.15 Glory Snatcher 3.45 Keren Park 4.15 Ballydurrow

Huntingdon results

Going: Good

1.45 (1.50) OFFORD HURDLE (Div 1) (Novices: £690: 2¼m)
CORDOUROY, ch h Hotfoot—Twill (Westmarland) 6-11-10 H Davies (20-1) 1
Another Generation ... R Rowe (5-8 fav) 2
My John Charlotte ... R Champion (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.90; places, 48p, 10p, 38p. Dual F: £3.36. C.S.F. £3.99. H. Beasley at Nutley. ½l, 10l. Late Night Extra (10-1) 4th. 20 ran. NR: Ambason, Sweet Highness.

2.15 (2.22) WYTON CHASE (Novices: £1,287: 2½m)
ALMIGHTY ZEUS ch g, by High Hat—Zeus Girl—(D Hodges) 5-10-7 P Barton (10-1) 1
Wendys Whizz Kid ... Mr D Williams (16-1) 2
Falkland Palace ... B R Davies (5-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 87p; places, 15p, 38p, 10p. Dual F: £18.11. C.S.F. £16.95. D. Gandolfo at Wantage. 20l, 4l. Weavers Loom 5-2 jt fav. Dennaton (14-1) 4th, 11 ran.

2.45 (2.50) SAWTRY HURDLE (Selling: £476: 2m & 200 yds.)
ALBRIZZIb h by Cannonade—Table (R Short) 5 11 10 M Harrington (9-4 fav) 1
Boxlaw ... M Hammond (10-1) 2
Jack Rabbit ... A Madgwick (14-1) 3
TOTE: win 48p, places 33p 29p 34p, Dual £10.76, CSF £2.71, J Jenkins, at Hodges 121, 20l. Lowndes Court (8-1) 4th 12 ran.
Handsome Slanger (8-1) withdrawn not under orders Rule four applies to all bets, deduction 10p in the pound. Winner bought in for 1,150 guineas.

3.15 (3.20) TOTE CHASE (Handicap: £1,875: 3m 100 yds
THE COPLOW b g by Indian Ruler—Napanee (Mrs M Bennion) 9 10 8 Mr W Bennion (9-2) 1
Jackstones ... R Dickin (14-1) 2
Colonial Lad ... Marquis de Cuella 3
TOTE: win, 41p, places, 10p 53p 28p. Dual £6.91. CSF: £7.69. W Wharton, at Melton Mowbray, ½l, 20l, Moonlight Express 5-2 fav. Woottham (8-1) 4th 15 ran.

3.45 (3.49) ST NEOTS CHASE (Handicap: 2m 100yd)
SPIN AGAIN br m by Royalty — Spin-a-Yarn (Mrs D Stoddart) 7-10-0 P Scudamore (2-1) 1
Reidis ... P Barton (9-1) 2
Lord Graystoke ... G Bradley (15-8 fav) 3
TOTE: Win: 18p Dual forecast: 20p CSF 61p. D Morley at Bury St Edmunds, 10l, 4l. Zelda's Fancy (14-1) 4th 5 ran. NR: Hilly Way.

4.15 (4.21) OFFORD HURDLE (Div II: Novices £690: 2¼m)
STEPHOUETTE, ch m by Stephen George — Sweet Silhouette (J Dale) 6-11-6 E Waite (50-1) 1
Leith Hill Flyer ... I Cox (7-1) 2
Rightland Man ... R Earnshaw (8-4 fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.96, Places: 82p, 25p, 14p. Dual forecast: £35.20. CSG £35.63. J King at Swindon, 1l, 4l. Master at Arms (25-1) 4th, 20 ran. NR: John Wilding, the Toim.
Leith Hill Flyer finished first, but after an objection was placed second.
PLACEPOT: Win: £34.45.

Taunton

Going: Heavy

12.30 (12.32) NEW YEAR CHASE (Div I novices, £1,180: 3m 1f)
RICH ENCOUNTER b m by Targogan-Dianaric (Mrs M Babbage) 8-10-9 Mr N Babbage (7-2) 1
Miss Pilgrim ... R Rowell (3-1) 2
Giddycan ... R Hoare (5-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win 46p places, 14p, 20p, 22p. Dual F: 48p, CSF £1.36 Mrs M Babbage at Brockhampton, 7l, ¾l, Lucky Shoom (25-1) 4th, 13 ran

1.00 (1.2) NEW YEAR CHASE (Div II: novices, £1,170: 3m 1f)
DROPS O'BRANDY b g, by Hot Brandy-Ravishing (Mrs C Fairbairn) 7-11-2 P Warner (7-4 fav) 1
Tickytino ... Mr N Mitchell (33-1) 2
Langley Green ... A Webber (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win 27p places 11p, 36p, 38p. Dual F: 97p, CSF £6.01. J Edwards at Ross-on-Wye, 2l, 20l, Bobtree (5-1) 4th, 13 ran

1.30 (1.33) FRESH START HURDLE (Novices: £552: 2m)
JAHUS, ro g, Ragstone-January (K Lloyd) 4-10-0 S Shilston (10-1) 1
Somers Heir ... R Hyett (4-1) 2
Mishou L'amour ... M O'Halloran (15-2) 3
TOTE: Win £1.19; places, 24p, 20p, 22p. dual forecast £2.36, CSF £5.03. Mrs N Smith at Chichester. 3l, 15l, Johns Present 9-4 fav. Westerpayne (33-1) 4th, 18 ran.

2.00 (2.3) JANUARY HURDLE (Selling handicap; £454: 2m).
RACHEL STREET gr g by Precipice Wood-Stolen Kiss (J Harriman) 6-10-7 HD Bl. M Williams (33-1) 1
Wee William ... G Davies (7-4 fav) 2
Pykestaff ... T Austin (9-1) 3
TOTE; Win £4 59, places 59p, 22p, 23p dual forecast £21.57. CSF £8.44 Tricast £53.68. M Harriman at Tredegar. 2½l, 1½l. Emperor Napoleon (4-1) 4th. 11 ran.

2.30 (2.32) NEW YEAR CHASE (Div III: £1,170: 3m 1f)
EASTER CARNIVAL b m by Pardigras — Halfkar (Mrs M Best) 6-11-9 P. Richards (2-1) 1
Never Tamper ... J. Williams (7-1) 2
General Rock ... K. Mooney (4-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 28p; places, 10p, 20p, 21p. Dual F: £1.08. CSF: £1.58. K. Bishop, at Bridgwater. 25l, 8l. (Starsky) (33-1) 4th. 12 ran.

3.00 (3.03) HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (Qualifier Novice: £1,043: 2m)
TRISKA b g by Blakrah — La Trilease (L Kennard) 6-10-7 bl R. Dennis (100-30) 1
Partango ... C. Brown (7-2) 2
Sir Kelpie ... J. Williams (6-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 37p; places, 12p, 18p, 27p. Dual F: 62p. CSF: L. Kennard, at Taunton. 1l, 12l. Northover Manor (9-2) 4th. 14 ran.

3.30 (3.31) WINTER CHASE (Handicap: £1,668: 3f)
SPARTAN MAJOR b g by Spartan General — Singlehanded (Mrs W. Sykes) 8-11-10 bl S. Morshead (12-1) 1
Aloha Prince ... A. Webb (25-1) 2
Tristram Shandy ... C. Brown (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 94p; places, 28p, 59p, 24p. Dual F: Winner or second with any other horse 30p; CSF: £25.81. Mrs W. Sykes, at Bishops Castle. 10l, 5l. Regents Garden 9-4 fav. Gambling Prince (7-1) 4th. 11 ran. NR: The Herb.

☐ Good Prospect, formerly owned by the Prince of Wales, has been strongly supported for the Grand National. *Ladbrokes* have *laid* the gelding to lose a total of £100,000, striking bets at 200-1 and 100-1. Good Prospect is now a 50-1 chance.

☐ The Kildare trainer Michael O'Brien is hoping Peter Scudamore will be available to ride Tacroy in the Tote Double steeplechase at Cheltenham tomorrow.

Skiing

Everything is rosy down on the farm

From Dudley Doust
Schladming, Jan 28

Erika Hess, a rosy Swiss farm girl, came twelfth in the opening race of the Alpine world ski championships today but from all the jangling of cowbells you'd have thought she had won. She may well. The race was the downhill half of the women's combined event and Miss Hess, a splendid slalom skier, is now well placed to sweep to the top of the field after the slalom half takes place on Monday.

Her time, 1 min 40.29sec through a soft dust of snow, was the equivalent of about 29 metres behind the winner, Maria Walliser, another Swiss. The tall veteran downhiller, Doris de Agostini, yet another Swiss, came second and the durable American, Cindy Nelson, third. The other finish that mattered was Fabienne Serrat's seventh for the stunning French girl, another slalom specialist, now is favoured to challenge Miss Hess for the title.

Britain's two entries made a hard run of it. Moira Langmuir, from Edinburgh, crashed in an explosion of snow some 600 metres from the finish and bruised her right knee, as she had done two days earlier in practice. Clair Booth, another Scot, stayed on her skis and came thirty-fourth of the 52 finishers.

Miss Hess has run only four downhills this season. She has the slalom in her blood, having learned the discipline from her aunt, Annamarie Waser, who came third in the slalom at the 1958 world championships at Badgastein.

Miss Hess, 19 years old, won the Olympic bronze medal at Lake Placid and now dominates women's slalom racing while the old-timer, Miss Serrat, won the world combination title at Garmisch in 1978. This was her first downhill race of the season. The deciding slalom race on Monday should be a close run one.

The final irony of the day came only minutes after the women's race had finished when the Canadian Gerry Sorensen, who only the day before withdrew from the *combination* event, ran the course faster than any of the competitors. She was training for a Saturday event, the women's downhill.

The downhillers continue to be the centre of interest, partly because such male slalom specialists as Sweden's Ingemar Stenmark are practising elsewhere in the Alps, but mainly because the downhill event is food and drink to the Austrian ski fan. They have five men who could win the race and the Austrian press corps pumps out column after column on the team and principally their national hero, the racer Franz Klammer.

"It does not affect us much," says Ken Read, the Canadian who with his team colleague, Steve Podborski, fancies his chances at the title. "We just don't read the Austrian papers."

The spotlight tomorrow stays on the downhill course where the championship continues with the men running the downhill part of their *combination* event. The British have entered three races, Nick Wilson; Frederick Burton and, the best hope of all, Konrad Bartelski.

Three skiers from Eastern Europe were disqualified today for displaying illegal advertizing. The race office said that the advertising was on the gloves of Martina Junusova, of the Soviet Union, Ewa Grabowska, of Poland and Alexandra Masarova, of Czechoslovakia.

DOWNHILL (provisional): 1, M Wallisor (Switzerland), 1 min 39.17 sec; 2, C Nelson (US), D de Agostini Epple (WG), 1:39.81; 5, L Graham (Canada), 1:39.96; 6, D Lehodey (Canada), 1:40.12; 7, F Serrat (France), 1:40.22. British placings: 33, C Booth, 1:44.66; M Langmuir did not finish.



Ski dance: Fabienne Serrat, of France, in the downhill.

Rugby Union

Welsh body may escape surgery

By Gerald Davies

Even a Welshman could forgive any Irishman his broad smile last Sunday morning. The Irish had not only upset the form books but had also destroyed for the time being the image other countries have disparagingly painted of them as a team whose tactics are based essentially on spoiling and of taking advantage of their opponents' mistakes.

The Irish themselves may find it curious that when other countries employ such tactics it becomes quite acceptable and is referred to as "pressure" rugby which gives some kind of validity to the style and legitimacy within the rugby manual.

It has proved difficult for the Irish to rid themselves of the label. They emphatically did so last Saturday with as comprehensive a defeat of the Welsh XV as one can remember, even taking into account their success of two years ago. It was a well-rounded performance.

No effort was wasted, no chance missed. It was a performance that drew the praises of the French critics and because of the gaps that appeared in the Welsh defence, may well have influenced them in choosing an attacking side.

If it was surprising that Lenihan, Keane and O'Driscoll should win the lineout so completely, it was even more surprising that during the second half the Irish momentum was such that they upstaged what seemed in the first half to be a solid and comfortable-looking Welsh scrum. Their control was epitomized in the manner Duggan held the ball at the back of the scrum which led to Campbell's last penalty.

Wales meet France on February 6 and the selectors have delayed naming the team until Sunday. Their reaction to defeat in Dublin, may not, however, be too drastic.

Major surgery would be a mistake. Just before Christmas the same team produced exciting comments after their performance against Australia, so a loss against Ireland need not produce sweeping changes in the manner after the game against Scotland last year. Many great players' reputations have been brought into question in Dublin in past years.

It is a stitching-up operation that is now required. Since the backs had no chances in Dublin, no changes would be justified there. However the back row needs some readjustment. Both Davies and Williams are essentially open-side breakaway flankers. The pack needs a flanker who thrives on the chores tight to the scrum so that one of these players, most probably Davies, will be sacrificed.

Clive Burgess did the job admirably last year and the Welsh selectors may recall him or else choose a younger man of similar type. Both Lakin and Golding of Cardiff could fit the bill. Furthermore they may well want to consider the claims of Sutton of Pontypool at the middle of the line jumping position. To make room for him Moriarty could well replace Wheel at the front. A question mark also has been placed over Stephens at loose head and both Williams (Swansea) and the uncapped Knight (Aberavon) contending for this place.

With France having reputedly chosen a team without much fire-power up front, but who are intent on running the ball, Wales will want to deny them as much possession as possible.

Barker's try brings degree of relief

By Gordon Allan

London 10 Guy's 6

A try by Barker, the Bedford wing, two minutes from the end enabled London to beat Guy's in the Hospitals Cup at Chislehurst yesterday. London scored two penalty goals and a try to two penalties and now face Westminster in the semi-final round at Rosslyn Park on February 10.

It was one of the poorest hospitals matches I have seen—and I have seen some bad ones—but the try was good of its kind. Allen hoisted a cross-kick from the right, a maul formed on Guy's 22, and the ball came back on the London side. Condon ran through a gap and floated a high pass to Barker, who scored in the corner. Allen missed the conversion, but there was too little time left for that to matter.

Just before London's try, Guy's had drawn level with Hackett's second penalty, Lammiman having kicked two for London. If the match had ended in a draw there could have been no complaints because both sides were equally mediocre, to put it kindly. On this form, which is probably too bad to be true, London will be fortunate to reach the final again.

LONDON: M Benson; S Allen, C Long, C Lammiman (captain), W Barker; H Condon, C Roome, R Kerr, D Cussen, T Briggs, R Hughes (rep, A Justice), I Basnett, R Barker, A Taylor, A de Belder.

GUY'S: P. Reynolds; A Jones, N Slater, M Hackett, H Williams, M Bundy, N Poole (captain); G Parry, S Hamilton, S Kennedy, P Taylor, A Liddell, N Roberts, J Brazier, D Lloyd.

Referee: A. Evans (London).

OTHER RESULT: St Mary's Hospital 25, Middlesex Hospital 3.

Warwickshire rebuffed

With the last final of the county championship in its present form due to be played tomorrow, a warning shot has already been fired across the bows of the new-style competition. Warwickshire, having formally asked whether the Coventry ground will continue to be available when county games are played on Saturdays, have been informed that it is unlikely.

A Coventry official said: "If county games clash with our first team home fixtures, Warwickshire certainly cannot expect the use of Coundon Road. Thanks to the televising of internationals there is enough disruption of first-team fixtures already. We have had to switch five Saturday matches to other days this season."

Warwickshire are now likely to turn to either Nuneaton or Rugby, but North Midlands do not have such reasonable alternatives, if Moseley stick to their guns

North Midlands, of course, meet Lancashire there in tomorrow's final and will be playing in the "new" county championship's first division next season, whereas Warwickshire will be in the third division.

The game that has the nation wrapped up, like Mary Queen of Scots, in a green baize

Nobody cocks a snook at snooker

To Wembley for the snooker, hoping to pick up a few tips. I play it every evening after supper with my 15-year-old son. It is just a cheap, hardboard table which after two years of constant use is as furrowed as the face of Auden.

It has become a feature of many family lives these days, that awkward table cluttering up suburban living-rooms. At one time only the working classes played snooker or toffs who could set aside a special room inside their stately halls. Thanks to television, the game now crosses every social barrier and has made superstars out of young boys with nice manners and clean clothes.

Everyone will be watching out for Steve Davis this weekend on television. The experts expect him to get to the finals of the Masters which finishes on Sunday. He is the one with red hair and cupid lips.

Mary Queen of Scots was terribly keen on billiards, playing it for money, and part of her punishment when she was locked up was to have her table taken away. When she was beheaded her body was wrapped up in her own billiards cloth.

In the nineteenth century it was still a game for gentlemen, though with rather sleazier overtones. Thackeray started on his road to financial ruin when as a young man in London he haunted the billiard halls and took up gambling, capturing the scenes in some of his own drawings.

Snooker is relatively recent and a wholly British invention, being created by some young subalterns in India about 100 years ago. A "snooker" was apparently a young, raw subaltern, easily duped. Perhaps "to cock a snook" has a similar derivation. No doubt Philip Howerd will be able to tell us.

This week's Masters tournament, sponsored by Benson and Hedges, started with 12 world-ranking players playing for prize money of £27,000. Five are from England, three from Wales, two from Northern Ireland, one each from Canada and Australia. If the Yanks can have World Series games, so can the rest of us.

I thought at first I had entered a cathedral. There was absolute silence in the Wembley Conference Centre, though the hall was packed with around 2,000 worshippers.

A gentleman in white gloves was performing some sacrament with a red ball, wiping carefully what looked like an already immaculate surface. Then he stood aside to let two gentlemen take over in their perfectly ironed suit trousers and waistcoats, white collars and ties.

The older gentleman, sleek and aquiline, with dark polished hair, anointed his cue with chalk. This was Ray Reardon. The noise of the chalk being scraped was the first sound I heard. The other player, younger and stockier with his hair blow-died, was Dennis Taylor. He took a seat while Reardon proceeded at the table.

Reardon looked the classier player even to an untrained eye, his back at a perfect right angle as he leant over the table, his chin gently touching the cue, his stroke smooth and elegant. He smiled secretly to himself between shots, though he rather ruined the polished pose when his break was over and he walked backwards to take his seat, still admiring his last shot, and stumbled over an enormous arrangement of flowers. A few tittered. Watching snooker is no laughing matter.

The worst part must be sitting down when it is not your turn. Taylor got the biggest break in that first round match, 72, and Reardon practically went into a trance, so patiently did he await his turn. When you play Davis you must feel like going for a walk round the block.

Taylor, down 1—3, was looking sick in his dressing-room at half-time. He comes from Coleisland in Northern Ireland. The Muzak was on at fever pitch but he was unable to turn it down.

"I've had bad eyesight since I was a boy", he said. "At school I always sat at the front of the class. In 1979 my eyes became so strained that I decided to get contact lenses. I played my best snooker that year but they lasted only six months. Now I'm wearing nothing. I can't see the brass furrel at the end of this cue. You do most of the shots by the feel."

The buzzer went and he went off in a better frame of mind; and he managed some better frames of snooker but Reardon came back to form in the eighth game, finishing by doubling the black and winning 5—3, and so going into the next round.

The game is clean, with hardly a hint of gamesmanship. About the meanest trick is to put your ice in your water very noisily while you are sitting out, just as your opponent is about to make a crucial shot. Enid Blyton stuff compared with football.

Reardon is 49 and comes from Tredegar in Wales. He left school at 14 and went down the mines for 11 years, once being buried alive. Then for nine years he was a policeman. In 1967 he decided to turn professional.

"I had only £315 to my name, which was my police gratuity, and I was living in a rented house. Three years later, in 1970, I had £8 savings in the bank. In 1970, when I won my first world championship, I got a cheque for £1,250. I'd never seen such money in my whole life."

He feels no resentment towards the young players who have shot to the top in the last three years and almost overnight are well on the way to becoming millionaires.

This evening he will be playing Terry Griffiths in the quarter-finals. Look out for that secret smile and enjoy that polished play. The shine on top comes via Brylcreem, which babies like Steve Davis have probably never used. In the 1940s, before Davis was born, Reardon plastered Brylcreem on after a day down the pit. "I've got that fine hair, you see. After I'd washed it I couldn't do a thing with it. I can't change my style now, can I?"

Hunter Davies



Writer drawing on experience: pen portrait by Thackeray.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

Cut-price tyres that can kill at speed

A recent court case in Warwickshire has brought renewed calls to the Government to ban the import of substandard tyres which can cause serious injury or death.

The case arose after the owner of a Reliant Scimitar, who had bought a new pair of tyres, found that his steering had become irregular. He had the vehicle checked by a dealer, who told him the trouble was due to the tyres, and alerted the Warwickshire Trading Standards Department.

Test by the department disclosed a fault in the construction of the tyres which caused severe stripping of the tread at speed. The tyres had been made in West Germany and were destined for Iran. But they never got there; they fell into the hands of a tyre broker in Italy, who shipped them by container into Britain.

The British importer sold them to a retailer, claiming that they were suitable for speeds of up to 93mph. The importer was brought to court under the Trade Descriptions Act and fined £200, an amount described by Warwickshire County Council as derisory.

Through the Association of County Councils it is to press the Government to consider action against the import of downgraded tyres, to introduce a marking system and to tighten up the law governing their sale.

The National Tyre Distributors Association, supported by the British tyre manufacturers, wants an immediate ban. Mr Mervyn Thomas, the association's director said: "The numbers may be small but it needs only one to cause an accident and we feel that everything should be done to stop them entering this country".

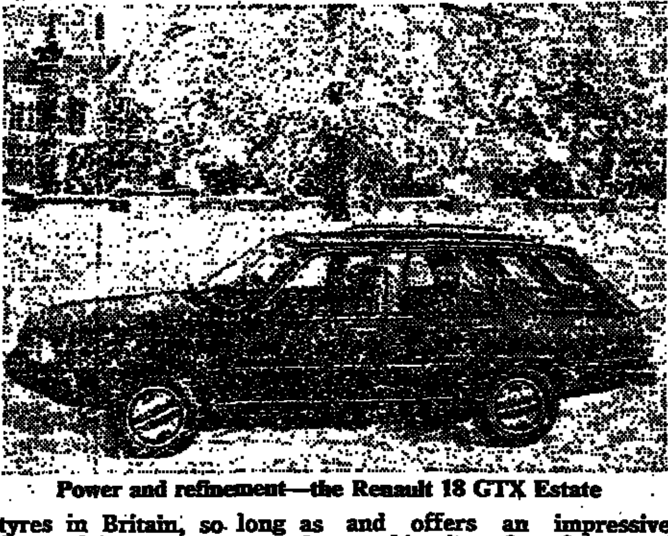
The Department of Transport is looking at tyres as part of a general review of imported car components. It said: "Naturally we are concerned about the safety implications, though legislation could be difficult to enforce. Meanwhile, we advise motorists to buy tyres only from reputable dealers and to be wary of very low prices."

In Britain tyres which are below standard are scrapped by the manufacturers. Continental tyre firms, however, try to get some of their money back by selling downgraded tyres for use on farm vehicles, often in Africa and the Middle East. To prevent confusion, the tyres are sometimes marked "for agricultural use" and given a maximum speed rating, say 30 kmh.

It is not illegal to sell such tyres in Britain, so long as false claims are not made about them. As the law stands, the onus is on the motorist to make sure he is not being misled; under the Construction and Use Regulations it is an offence to use a tyre which is "unsuitable having regard to the use to which the vehicle is being put".

What safeguards, therefore, has the driver got? If he looks at the *sidewall* of the tyre, he should find a marking which denotes its suitability for cars capable of a certain speed. The letter S means up to 113 mph, H up to 130 mph and V is for speeds above 130mph. In the Warwickshire case, the manufacturer, knowing the tyres were substandard, had buffed off the speed marking.

A point to note is that the markings refer to the speed potential of a car and not the speed at which it is being driven. If you fit your 150 mph Jaguar with SR radials, even if you keep within the 70 mph speed limit it could still be argued that the tyres are inadequate for the capability of the car.



Power and refinement—the Renault 18 GTX Estate

Renault 18 GTX Estate

Renault, like Ford, likes to work the greatest possible variations on each model and it was only a matter of time before the medium R18 was fitted with a 2-litre engine in addition to the original 1397cc and 1647cc units. The extra power is particularly appropriate on the estate version, which is likely to carry bigger loads over longer distances.

The car uses the excellent 1995cc overhead camshaft engine which was jointly developed by Renault and Peugeot and has already seen service in the R20 and Fuego, as well as the Peugeot 505 and Citroen CX. In the 18 it develops 104 bhp at 5,500 rpm and offers an impressive combination of performance, economy and refinement.

Mated with a five-speed gearbox, the engine pulls strongly up to fourth gear, while fifth can be engaged for economical cruising. Even with a full load, the car feels lively and in fourth, at least, has ample power for overtaking and climbing hills. At 70 mph in fifth, an engine speed of barely 3,000 rpm and, thanks to the car's smooth "nose", low wind noise, makes the GTX ideal for motorway driving.

The 2-litre engine is not quite as economical as the 1600 but should give around 26 mpg in town; on the open road, making liberal use of the fifth gear, I managed 37 mpg. The estate has a bigger fuel tank, 12.5 gallons, than the saloon, which should ensure 300 miles and more between fill-ups.

Power steering, standard on this version, is a useful thing to have on an estate; the Renault system is precise and responsive and leaves the driver feeling very much in control. The suspension is stiffer than on the saloon, which gives the car tauter handling, and the gearbox, if a little springy in its changes, is easy to use.

As might be expected from a Renault, the car is very comfortable in a soft sort of way. The seats, trimmed with a pleasant velour cloth, are upholstered almost like an armchair (not that they fail to give adequate support over a long journey); and the ride is admirably smooth on all but the worst road surfaces.

At 14ft 8in long, the car is not too big to park and the rear screen wash-wipe ensures good vision. The roof-hinged tailgate, which lifts up on gas-filled struts, extends to floor level for easy loading and the load area can be extended by folding down the rear seat to give a platform length of 5ft 8in. The car should accommodate the typical family of two adults and two children, with holiday luggage, though if space is the main consideration the Ford Cortina Estate, with similar overall dimensions, is bigger inside for both passengers and luggage. Another rival, the Morris Ital, also has a bigger load area; which is a little surprising as the Renault has front-wheel drive and the British cars do not.

My criticisms of the 18 GTX arise mainly from the dashboard. The instruments are large and clear enough but the minor controls, for the window lifts, heated rear window and so on, are placed far too low and encourage the driver to take his eyes off the road. The digital clock, on the other hand, is almost in the roof, which is just as bad. The heating and ventilation system could be more powerful.

At £6,679, the GTX Estate is the most expensive model in the 18 range, apart from the Turbo. But it is very well equipped; apart from the power steering, there are rails on the roof for securing loads, central locking, electric windows, laminated windscreen, alloy wheels, interior adjustment for the door mirror and a low fuel warning light.

Japanese Patrol

Datsun this week enters the expanding British four-wheel-drive market with a vehicle called the Patrol. There are two body styles, a two-door hardtop and a four-door estate, which roughly approximate to the Land Rover and Range Rover. To save fuel on ordinary roads, only the rear wheels need be driven; four-wheel drive, in either high or low ratios, is engaged with a second gear lever mounted on the transmission tunnel.

Two six cylinder engines are available, a 2.8 litre petrol and 3.3 litre diesel and all models have power-assisted steering and a limited slip differential to help traction.

What will immediately attract potential customers to the Patrol is its price. The Estate costs £8,994 in its petrol version and £9,747 as a diesel, against £14,260 for the four-door Range Rover and £13,910 for the cheapest Mercedes Geländewagen.

On paper, therefore, the Datsun would seem to be very good value but only driving will tell whether it can match the Range Rover in areas like handling, comfort and refinement; the Land Cruiser certainly does not. Hardtop versions of the Patrol are £7,987 with the petrol engine and £8,756 with the diesel.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Today's subjects are Biology: Better Badminton; Look and Read; Religious and Moral Education; Exploring Science; Hyn o Fyd (for Welsh viewers); Talkabout (story of Chen Ping); Going to Work; and Plants in Action (flower power); 12.30 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore, Moira Stuart; 12.57 Financial Report And news headlines; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Peter Seabrook visits the gardens of Kiftsgate Court, Gloucestershire; 1.45 Bagpuss; 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: May All Your Troubles be Little Ones (parental responsibility); and a Good Job with Prospects (real estate); 3.00 Closedown; 3.20 Pobol y Cwm: Welsh serial, episode 2; 3.55 Play School:

4.20 Captain Caveman: cartoon; 4.30 Think Again: The theme is chairs. The presenter is Johnny Ball.

4.55 Grange Hill: Comprehensive school serial. Episode 8.

5.20 The Amazing Adventures of Morph: with Tony Hart (r); 5.25 Welcome to Wodehouse. Paul Eddington reads Sir Agravaine.

5.40 News: with Richard Baker; 6.00 South East at Six. And, at 6.22, Nationwide. With Desmond Lynam's Sportswide.

7.00 The Superstars: The Ferguson Men's Championship. From Luton, in Bedfordshire. The competitors are Bryan Robson. Steve kmoran, Stewart Matthews, Alton Byrd, Paul Dickenson, Tony Doyle, Neil Adams and Mike Siemen.

8.00 Fame is the Spur: Episode 4 of the Howard Spring novel, serialized by Elaine Morgan. Arnold (David Hayman) is campaigning for parliament. Hamer (Tim Pigott-Smith) agrees to help him. But the third of the life-long chums, Tom (George Costigan) is not to be relied on.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took has fun with viewers' betters.

9.00 News: with John Simpson. And weather.

9.25 Kojak: Secret Snow, Deadly Snow. A drugs dealer is about to be charged with murder. But it then emerges that it wasn't his gun that committed the deed.

10.15 Face the Music: Probably the best musical quiz ever devised. Impeccably chaired by Joseph Cooper. The guests tonight are Bernard Levin, Annette Page and Robin Ray. The visiting celebrity from the world of music: Tito Gobbi (r).

10.50 Film: The Lost Continent (1968) Hammer film of the Dennis Wheatley adventure yarn about some passengers from an old tramp steamer who, trapped by man-eating weed in the Sargasso Sea, fall into the hands of the Spanish Inquisition.

BBC VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales 12.57-1.00 pm News. 1.45-2.2 Corachod. 2.35-3.0 I Ysgolion. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 4.55-5.20 Ohwynion. 6.0-6.22 Wales Today. 7.0-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.0 Pobol Y Cwm 10.15-11.5 Week In Week Out. 11.5-11.6 News 11.6-12.42 a.m. Film: While The City Sleeps. 12.42 Close. Scotland 11.0-11.22 a.m. For Schools. 12.56-1.0 a.m. News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown 6.0-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 9.25-10.15 Ville Campbell . . . The Clown Who Came In From The Cold. 10.15-10.45 The Castles of Mar 10.45-10.46 Headlines; 10.50-11.20 Goodbye Mr. Kent 11.20-12.10 a.m. Kojak 12.10 Headlines. Northern Ireland 11.0-11.22 a.m. Closedown. 12.57-1.0 p.m. News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown 6.0-6.22 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 Headlines; 12.30 a.m. News. England 6.0-6.22 p.m. Regional Magazines. 10.15-10.45 East — Weekend. Midlands — Know Your Place. North — Politics North. North East — Coast To Coast. North West — Home Ground. South — The Writers' Programme. South West — Leslie Thomas and The Magic Army. West — Movie Magic.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School: Andrew Frank's story The King's Tune, told by the author. The presenters are Ben Thomas and Lola Young; 11.25 Closedown; 3.00 International Snooker: The Benson and Hedges Masters. Second day's play, from the Wembley Conference Centre. Last year, it was Alex Higgins who won the title. Now he defends it against either Eddie Charlton or Jimmy White. Highlights can be seen tonight, also on BBC 2, at 9.00pm and 11.30. The commentators: Ted Lowe, Clive Everton and Jack Karnehm.

5.10 World Ski-ing Championships: The Men's Combined Downhill. From Schladming.

5.40 Film: Sherlock Holmes in the Voice of Terror* (1942) Another of the thrillers which propelled Holmes and Watson into the middle of the 20th century. It's about some Nazi saboteurs who use a radio station to strike terror into the hearts of beleaguered Britons. Co-starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce.

6.45 Heroes: Magician Paul Daniels talks about his idols (Houdini, Morcambe and Wise, etc).

7.15 Oxford Road Show: Music and chat. Live from Manchester.

7.50 News summary and weather.

7.15 In the Country: Bert Gripton and his fox terriers.

8.25 Newsweek: Is Camp David Dead? The agreement is three years old. But what state is it in?

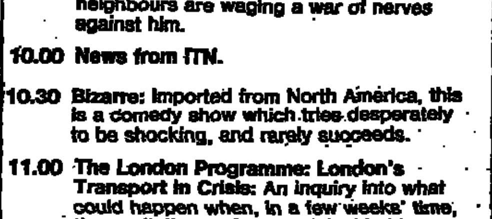
9.00 International Snooker: Benson and Hedges Championship (contd). More at 11.30.

9.25 Playhouse: Preview. A Play by Sylvia Clayton (see Choice).

10.45 Newsnight: news and comment.

11.30 International Snooker: (see 9.00pm entry).

11.55 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning. Chat and music show, with Clare Francis as MC. Ends at 12.50am.



Clare Francis: BBC 2, 11.55pm

ITV/LONDON

9:35 For Schools: The subjects today are Reading with Lenny; How we Used to Live (winter, 1947); Maths concepts; Physics in Action; Geography. Today; Alive and Kicking: Documentary about metal; Full face Of the Earth (2); 11.55 Comic Stories; 12.00 A Handful of Songs: with Keith Field, Maria Morgan; 12.10 Once Upon a Time: The Ugly Duckling; 12.30 Simply Sewing: pinafore dresses and sleeveless cardigans; 1.00 News; 1:20 Thames area news; 1.30 Take the High Road: Scottish estate serial; 2.00 After Noon Plus: Viewers can phone in and put their questions to Mr Tony Benn; 2.45 Film: Checkpoint: Thriller with Stanley Baker as a saboteur and racing car fanatic. Co-starring Anthony Steel, Odile Versois.

4.15 Dangermouse: cartoon serial, episode 5; 4.20 Storybook International: the Emperor and the Abbot. With Claire Nielson.

4.45 Jukes of Piccadilly; Comedy-thriller serial with Nigel Hawthorne as a tea purveyor and private eye on the track of the kidnapped niece of a sheikh.

5.15 Square One: Big board game, with Sandra Dickinson and John Gordon as guest players. The MC is Joe Brown; 5.45 News from ITN.

6.00 The Six O'Clock Show: The London stories that don't get into the news bulletins.

7.00 Family Fortunes: The Bob Monkhouse quiz game. Other quiz game hosts (Nicholas Parsons and Derek Batey) take part.

7.30 Hawaii Five-O: Second World War weapons are used in a bombing raid on a factory.

8.30 Shine on Harvey Moon: Comedy drama series, set in the 1940. Harvey (Kenneth Cranham) discovers why his son plays truant from school. And his attempt to get back into football fails when he takes his stand with the players in their demand for more cash. Lee Whitlock plays the young lad.

9.00 The Gentle Touch: Police drama. A man whose wife has left him, looks after his baby son by himself. He believes his neighbours are waging a war of nerves against him.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Bizarre: Imported from North America, this is a comedy show which tries desperately to be shocking, and rarely succeeds.

11.00 The London Programme: London's Transport in Crisis: An inquiry into what could happen when, in a few weeks' time, the capital's bus fares are doubled because of the Law Lords' ruling that cheaper fares cannot be paid for out of the rates. The position in other European capitals, where public transport is highly subsidized, is investigated.

11.35 Soap: Crazy comedy about two families.

12.05 Paris By Night: Visits to Suresnes, Nanterre, Vincennes and Aubervilliers, all on the outskirts of Paris.

12.30 Close: with Gillian Reynolds.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: Frankie Howerd.
9.45 Feedback (new series). Your views on BBC TV and Radio.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Dock" by Jill Norris.
11.00 News.
11.05 Great Families of Britain. A series of radio portraits (2) the Princely House of Hamilton.
11.50 Bird of the Week.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My Word! †
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: "Credit Account" by A. S. Robertson. †
4.05 Poetry Please! †
4.15 Modern French Writers (new series) (1) Andre Gide.
4.45 Story Time: "Marital Rites" by Margaret Forster (5).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. †
8.10 Profile.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending. †
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" by James Joyce (10).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Glyn Worsnip in the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News and Weather.

6.25 Weather 9.05 For Schools 10.30 Listen with Mother 11.00 For Schools 1.55 Programme News 2.00 For Schools 5.50 PM (continued) 11.00 Study on 4

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert † Rossini, Ireland, Johann Strauss, Copland; records.
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) handel, Spohr, Prokofiev; records.



Baroness Phillips in Any Questions? (Radio 4, 8.30pm)

9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer † Bruch; records.
10.00 Martin, Faure and Martinu † piano and flute & piano recital.
10.55 BBC Singers † Choral recital: Villa-Lobos, Chaves, Ginastera.
11.30 Music for Cello and Piano † recital: Britten, Beethoven.
12.25 Midday Concert † Part 1: Borodin.
1.00 News.
1.05 Midday Concert † Part 2: Ravel.
2.05 Haydn † String Quartet recital.
2.30 Peter Donohoe and Martin Roscoe † 2-piano recital: Brahms, Williamson, Rachmaninov.
4.00 Choral evensong † in the Abbey Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Tewkesbury.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. †
6.55 Play It Again † Preview.
7.00 Mozart and Schoenberg † BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra concert.
7.45 The Living Poet, Peter Levi introduces and reads his own work.
8.15 Hamish Milne † Piano recital: Bach transcr. Busoni, Schumman, Liszt.
8.55 The Great Wall of China by Franz Kafka. Reading.
9.25 Coull String Quartet † Recital: Haydn, Graham Whettman.
10.15 Book, Music and Lyrics † A personal view of musicals by Robert Cushman "The Spirit of the 30s".
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Two Poulenc Duets on record. †
VHF Only — Open University: 11.20-12.20.

Radio 2

5.00 Steve Jones. † 7.30 Terry Wogan. † 10.00 Jimmy Young. † 12.00 Gloria Hunniford. † 2.00 Ed Stewart. † 4.00 David Hamilton. † 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn. † 8.00 Friday Night is Music Night. † 10.00 Listen to Les. 10.30 Anything for a Laugh (new series). 11.15 Brian Matthew † from midnight. 1.00 Truckers' Hour. † 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music †

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show. † 12.00 Midnight Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT): 6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Backtracking. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Divertimento. 8.30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 The Ages of Man. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Just a Minute. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Letter From London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 A Murder of Quality. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 The French Miniature. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 A Word in Edgeways. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

CHOICE



Anna Cropper in Sylvia Clayton's play Preview (BBC 2, 9.25pm)

● PREVIEW, Sylvia Clayton's drama for Playhouse (BBC 2, 9.25) drops me, painfully, on the horns of a dilemma. The play is written by a colleague (Miss Clayton writes on television in The Daily Telegraph) and, ostensibly, it is about four others of our calling who go to a grim little preview theatre expecting to see a documentary about the history of work and end up watching something very different. Miss Clayton reviews plays; that is, her judgments normally appear in print the day after the transmission, when the cat's been let out of the bag. My notice is a preview and — so far as tonight's viewer is concerned — the cat's still in the bag. I mustn't, therefore, say anything here that will reveal which way this weird moggy will jump once it gets out. What I can safely disclose, though, is that the four reviewers, or previewers (the play does not make it clear what they are), are played by Anton Rodgers, Anna Cropper, Cherie Lunghi and Will Knightly and that, as you watch it, you will feel a distinct chill creeping over you.

● FAME IS THE SPUR (BBC 1, 8.00), Elaine Morgan's careful adaptation of the Howard Spring novel which, thanks in large part to the marvellous period sets of Don Homfray is as fine to look at as it is to listen to, has taken three weeks to strengthen its political foundations. Tonight, the central theme of political ambition begins to make itself felt in a big way. Fine acting all round, and an affecting musical score (by Alan Price) incorporating a theme that I can't help feeling Howard Spring himself could have been humming when he penned his powerful novel.

● AFTERNOON THEATRE (Radio 4, 3.02) is Credit Account, by A. S. Robertson. It's about a man of 58, once a works foreman and now redundant and home-bound. But, though his realm has shrunk to nothing, he still behaves like the king of the castle. A totally impossible man. The character, as written, is not wholly convincing, and neither is the play. But Fulton Mackay plays the pathetic autocrat. And that is what matters, because Mr Mackay is one of those actors who can get into a poorly stitched role and mend it from the inside until it looks like the work of a master tailor.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mr Jericho (Patrick Macnee, Connie Stevens). Conman plots to sell a fake diamond to an unscrupulous rival. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.00 Fall Guy. 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Tales from the Crypt (Ralph Richardson, Joan Collins). Five tourists become trapped in the catacombs. 1.10 am Birgitta and Swante.

ULSTER

As London except: 11.34 am-12.00 Face Your Future. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-4.15 Film: Captain's Table (John Gregson, Peggy Cummins). Cargo ship captain takes over a luxury liner. 5.15 Hear Here. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Lou Grant. 11.30 Bedtime. Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Bad Day at Black Rock (Spencer Tracy) One-armed stranger arrives at Black Rock in search of a man who disappeared after the war. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood: Swashbucklers. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Take the Mick. 11.00 Bizarre. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: House of Seven Gables (George Sanders, Margaret Lindsay) Nathaniel Hawthorne's tale of greed and mystery in a gloomy house in colonial New England. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Film: Screamer pretty girl loses her innocence, and seeks revenge. 12.25am Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: 11.55 am-12.00 Look and see 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Interval (Merle Oberon) Woman recovering froma nervous breakdown meets a man . . . 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35-7.00 Brown Study. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.28 News. 10.35 Aujourd'hui en France. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.50 Film: Rider on the Rain. Wife shoots a rapist. 12.45 am Closedown.

TSW

As London except: 11.55 am-12.00 Look and See. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Interval (Merle Oberon, Robert Wolders) Woman recovering from a nervous breakdown meets a man . . . 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 7.30-8.30 Mr TSW 1982. 10.30 News. 10.35 Postcript. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.50 Film: Rider on the Rain. Wife shoots rapist. 12.46 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 11.35am-12.00 Something Different. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Death Sentence (Cloris Leachman) Woman juror who discovers the truth about a murder case is threatened by the real killer, her husband. 4.10-4.15 Windows. 6.00-7.00 News. 7.00 Family Fortunes. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: Shock Treatment (Alain Delon) Middle-aged woman goes to a clinic for treatment, only to discover that it is not what it seems to be. 12.50am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mine Own Executioner (Burgess Meredith, Dulcie Grey) 1947 psychological thriller about ex-PoW who tries to strangle his wife. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Film: Circus of Horrors (Anton Diffring, Yvonne Monlaur) Plastic surgeon takes over a travelling circus . . . 12.10 Closedown.

TVS

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: House of Seven Gables* Nathaniel Hawthorne's tale of greed and mystery in a New England house. 5.15 Watch This Space . . . 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Film: Study in Terror (John Neville) Sherlock Holmes pursues Jack the Ripper. 12.50am Company followed by Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 11.34 am-11.49 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.45 Plant y Mewnfudwyr. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Only Genuine Jones: Owen Glynne Jones, pioneer of rock climbing. 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

SCOTTISH

1.20pm News. 1.30-2.00 Square One. 2.45-4.15 Film: House of Seven Gables (George Sanders) Nathaniel Hawthorne's tale of greed and misery in a New England home. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Scotland Today 6.25 Sports Extra 6.45-7.00 Hear, Here: Wessex 7.30-8.30 Thingummyjig 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Bizarre. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Streets of San Francisco. 12.30am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts: 9.25 am Good Word. 9.30-9.35 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: Life is a Circus* (Crazy Gang) The gang go to work at the circus. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy (Lee Majors. 10.30 News. 10.32 From Here To Eternity, part one (Natalie Wood) from James Jones's novel set around Pearl Harbour. 12.20 am Poet's Corner. 12.30 Closedown.

HTV WEST

As London except: 11.50 am-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Oracle* (Robert Beatty, Mervyn Johns). Oracle living in a well dispenses truth to all who ask for it. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.28 News. 10.30 Good Neighbour Show with Fred Wedlock and Cheryl Armitage. 11.00 Film: Play Misty For Me (Clint Eastwood). Violence after girl repeatedly rings DJ asking for same record. 12.45 am Closedown.

GRANADA

11.54am-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 1.20pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 4.15 Film: On the Buses (Reg Varney) Upset when women drivers are introduced to the depot. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Week on Friday. 11.30 Film: Forbidden to Know (Jean-Louis Trintignant) lawyer investigating murder finds hidden connections with an important politician. 1.20am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Diplomats named by Poland's chief spy-catcher

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 28

Spy fever is gripping Poland's authorities, who are worried about the strength of United States criticism of the military leadership. They have retaliated with a remarkable catalogue of American moles, microwave receivers, safe houses and dead drops.

In what must be a unique event in present day Eastern Europe, the head of Polish counter-intelligence gave a news conference today at which he named names in the glare of the world press. His presentation, supported by five television films of alleged agents caught red-handed, was aimed at proving links between the Central Intelligence Agency and the Solidarity trade union's advisers. Colonel Zbigniew Wiclowski, the balding spy catcher, seemed to enjoy his brief celebrity.

Colonel Wiclowski's firmest cases seemed to be the ones portrayed on film, all involving self-confessed agents or at least United States diplomats who had been caught contacting dissidents.

Miss Lesley Sternberg, former Third Secretary in the American Embassy's cultural section, was shown with a carload of documents and pamphlets produced by the nationalist Confederation for Independent Poland (KPN). Some of them, the film said, were printed on United States Embassy paper.

KPN now is banned—as it was at the time of Miss Sternberg's arrest in March, 1981. Miss Sternberg, the film said, left the country on the day after her arrest.

In all, the authorities accused seven Americans of acting as agents and several more Poles.

Mr Michael McBride of the United States Embassy in Sweden was said to have made contact with Polish exiles to try to persuade them to spy against Poland. Another diplomat, Mr Robert White, was said to have tried to buy the services of a senior Polish diplomat, offering $50,000.

A former woman employee of the United Nations—arrested when she returned to Poland on holiday—was shown, evidently in a prison cell, describing how she had been recruited by the American security service. American diplomats in Japan, Mexico, West Germany and Switzerland were also named.

The most significant part of this campaign seems to be its timing. The Polish Government is extremely upset at the prospect of a Hollywood political spectacular on the Polish crisis, and wants moreover to show that the United States has a long record of interfering in Polish affairs.

The colonel found himself under attack at the news conference. East European journalists demanded statistics of successful arrests (he could not provide them). Sceptical western reporters wanted to know why the moral fibre of Polish diplomats was so weak. Colonel Wiclowski said that his department was looking into ways of strengthening the morale of diplomats to make them less liable to approaches by United States agents.

No, unfortunately he could not say whether Polish agents were active abroad, Colonel Wiclowski said.

Talks on Walesa, page 8

Benn's apology to Jews

By George Clark

Mr Wedgwood Benn apologised yesterday for a remark he made on Monday at a meeting of the London Farringdon Branch of the National Union of Journalists about the Jews. It had given grave offence not just to Jewish people.

He had referred to the press attacks on Aslef the media's hostility towards the Labour movement and to the journalists' duty to print the truth. He said that journalists had told him: "I didn't write the headline; the editor told me to say that. I will lose my job if I put it differently".

Mr Benn then added that journalists were not exempted from what was happening in society. "Their role could be likened to the Jews in Dachau who herded other Jews into the gas chambers," he said.

Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, and president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said he received many protests.

"It was a phrase which caused considerable offence, first because it was incredibly inept, secondly because it was inaccurate," said Mr Janner. "There were no gas chambers at Dachau."



Richard Burton filming this week in Vienna on the set of "Richard Wagner", in which he plays the title role. "The essential difference is that Wagner was a genius and I am not," Burton says in an exclusive interview with Elkan Allan in "The Times" tomorrow.

Benn outlines scheme to create 4m jobs

Continued from page 1

problem of inflation. Mr Benn replied that nothing could be more inflationary than unemployment.

Mr Benn said serious planning was needed to create jobs, and that did not mean national planning by Whitehall. He wanted an entirely new concept involving municipalities like London, Sheffield or Leeds, working up through the regions to the national level.

Next, there had to be a large investment in industry and services, such as the health service, which were desperately undermanned. Public initiatives were needed in the form of municipal enterprises and cooperatives. There would also be a need for more training, earlier retirement and shorter working time. The Government would have to use the revenues from North Sea oil to control the use of credit.

Parliamentary report, Page 6

Mrs May was not killed by gunshots or blows

From John Earle, Rome, Jan 28

A post-mortem examination conducted today at Camerino on the remains of Mrs Jeanette May and her Italian friend, Signora Gabriella Guerin disclosed no evidence of blows or gunshot wounds. This was stated by the doctors undertaking the autopsy, who added that they were not in a position to establish whether the death of the two women was due to freezing or to strangling, or poisoning, as vital organs were missing.

Mr Stephen May, a London business executive who arrived earlier today to identify his wife recognized a pair of jeans and a blue blouse as belonging to his wife. In a pocket was the key of her Peugeot car.

These were among bones and personal effects of the two women, including an undeveloped film, found yesterday by two wild boar hunters in thick undergrowth in a wood near Fiastra, 10 miles from Sarnano, where the two disappeared 14 months ago.

Signora Guerin's sister Caterina, who lives near Udine in north-east Italy, said she would travel tomorrow to Camerino. "I cannot really believe my sister is dead", she added. "How could it be that their bodies were never discovered during vast searches by the police in the months immediately after their disappearance?"

It snowed heavily the weekend the women went missing and their Peugeot car was found abandoned a few miles out of the village when snow started to melt

☐ Mr May has asked to consult dental records before he can positively identify the remains of his wife, inquiry officials in Camerino said tonight

Lovelorn boy hijacks bus to see girlfriend

Eindhoven, Jan 28.—Dutch police today arrested a French teenager who hijacked a school bus in northern France and forced its driver to go 140 miles across Belgium and Holland, where he apparently hoped to visit his girlfriend.

Eindhoven police said the boy was overpowered and taken into custody at a Veldhoven orphanage, near here. Police were alerted after the hijacker, a 15-year-old pupil from Soissons, ordered the bus to stop outside the home and then, taking a 12-year-old girl as hostage, went in to see his girlfriend.

French police said the youth, armed with a .22 pistol, released 30 of the 40 pupils near Reims, letting off others at later stops before heading for Belgium with the last six children and the driver. It was not known whether he actually met his girlfriend.—AP.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Searching for that elusive mechanism

With telling interventions from Mr Enoch Powell and Mr Tony Benn, yesterday's debate on the economic situation was a success for the Extreme Party: the party to which, one feels sure, Britain will turn once the voters' present wave of moderation has run its course.

Mr Powell did not make a speech, but made a lethal intervention in the speech of Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Chancellor. Mr Powell is the only brilliant exponent of the Government's economic policy in the House. Unfortunately, he hates the Government. This is no reflection by him on its economic policy. It is only personal.

Mr Shore, to his credit, was in the act of saying that Mr Powell was the only man in the House who could put up a case for monetarism, when Mr Powell rose. Mr Shore had called for the inevitable "reflation" as the answer to unemployment. Mr Powell asked him, in his most menacing "Any Questions?" voice: "What is the mechanism?" As Mr Powell understood it, Mr Shore's policy would require six billion pounds worth of demand. How would this money be created? Taxation? Borrowing? "What is the mechanism for injecting the six billion?" Now, it is the case that when Mr Powell asks "What is the mechanism?" it sounds more terrifying than when the question is asked by, say, the central heating man or, for that matter, Sir Geoffrey Howe. It is that voice.

So, understandably, Mr Shore floundered around for a while, looking for his mechanism. No doubt he could have sworn it was in working order the last time he looked. The trouble is that, when you are the Labour Shadow Chancellor, there is not much call for a mechanism. You just say that the present Tory unemployment is worse than the Black Death, which was itself the consequence of Tory health service policy. Normally, you do not need a mechanism.

So Mr Shore began by telling Mr Powell that, as Shadow Chancellor, he could not commit himself to a precise figure. Since this sounded rather lame, he suddenly exclaimed: "I'd borrow it. I'd borrow it. I've said that again and again. We received the message. He'd borrow it.

He pressed on. Mr Shore, once a dull speaker, when he first became a Minister, as a result of being in Sir Harold Wilson's entourage, now seems to be registered with his doctor as an orator. This gives him some sort of a license to swoop and storm and rage in a rasping, melodramatic tone of voice.

He began yesterday by assuring us that this was "the greatest economic disaster for 50 years." The Government's policy was lunatic, he added.

You certainly got your money's worth. During the speech, one could have strolled out of the gallery, had a hot dinner, listened to an act of Parsifal on one's Sony Walkman, and wander back into the gallery to find him still at it—and you could have had a night out on the change.

During one of my own visits to his speech, I found him raving about the technological lead being given by the nationalized industries. He singled out "British Telecom", the disguise being at present adopted by the dear old GPO. It was giving the lead in extending technological innovation, he thundered. We led the industrialized world in extending the lengths of telephone waiting lists, the rest of us mused. But under the magic of Mr Shore's art, that disgraceful institution, manned by, among other horrors, a Directory Inquiries staff who refuse to give you addresses, suddenly took on an air of technological innovators being held back by a Tory Government. What an orator. It is no exaggeration to say he held himself spellbound.

Mr Benn's was the speech of the debate. It is a vulgar error to regard him as easy to refute, let alone as dotty. As well as the fear and hatred of so many members, he commanded the attention of all. The dotty ones can never do that. Someone always starts laughing at them. Some time Mr Benn lost that boyish, silly earnestness that used to make them laugh at him. His confident claims and demands ring across the chamber in firm, endlessly articulate tones. He dominates the House as only Mr Powell can among the others.

His speech yesterday touched on so many topics that it was in effect Your Quick Guide to Bennery. All the basic proposals were there—some preposterous when one stopped to think about them, but many persuasive, for he is heir to much in British radical history.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions

The Cooper Bequest: paintings bequeathed in 1912 by Samuel Joshua Cooper; and The Road to Recovery: art, handicraft and other work by patients and staff of Rampton Hospital; both at Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley, 10 to 5.30.

Mary Rose exhibition and marine art, Derby Museum and Art Gallery, Strand, Derby, 10 to 6.

Experimental Photography, Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Street, Sheffield, 10 to 8.

Paintings by Stafford Art Group, Stafford, Museum and Art Gallery, 10 to 5.

Poussin and his Engravers, University Art Gallery, Portland Building, University of Nottingham, 10 to 7.

Heritage of Tibet, British Museum, 10 to 5.

Architecture and Continuity, Architectural Association, 36 Bedford Square, WC1, 10 to 7.

Traditional Indian ceramics, paintings, printmaking and sculpture by four Indian women, IAUK, 8 South Audley Street, Mayfair, 12 to 7.

Talks, lectures

Rivers and Landscape, lecture, 11; and film: Fire under the Sea, 1.15; both at Geological Museum, Exhibition Road.

Roman silverware, by Patsy Vanags, 11.30; Recent excavations at Les Fouaillages, Guernsey, by Ian Kinnes, 1.15; both at British Museum.

Five Years On: Greater London Archaeology Department—excavations in W London, by Jon Cotton, Museum of London, London Wall, 1.10.

Music

Concert, Bochmann String Quartet, Stamford Arts Centre, St Mary's Street, Stamford, Lincs, 8.

Piano recital by Susan Howes, Holburne Museum, Gt Pulteney Street, Bath, 7.45.

Academy of Ancient Music chamber music recital, Oldbury Wells School, Bridgnorth, 7.30.

Organ recital by Mark Blatchly, St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30.

Recital by Singers Ensemble Class, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, EC2, 1.10.

Oboe recital by Julia Henry, St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, EC2, 1.10.

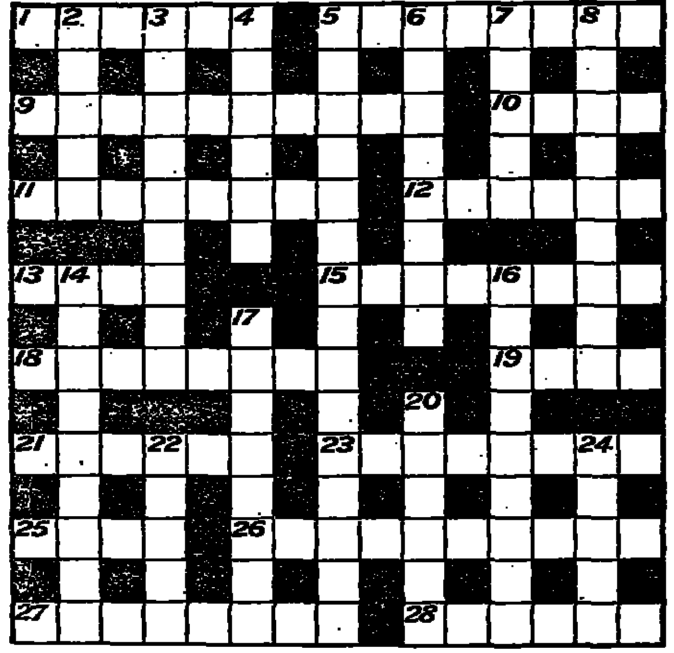
Piano recital by pupils of Martyn Dyke, St Martin Within Ludgate, Ludgate Hill, EC4, 1.15.

Kurdish evening with the Kurdish Revolutionary Singers, Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, WC1, 6.

Last chance to see

London Transport posters, London Tourist Board Tourist Information Centre, Victoria Station, 9.45 to 5.45.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,742



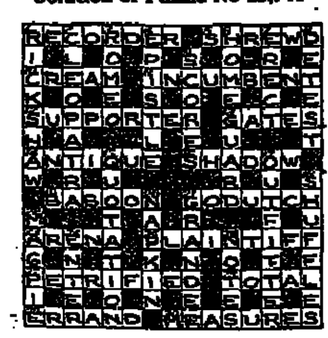
ACROSS

1 Dallied when induced to embrace a lout (6).
5 Cunning, provided diamonds get the trick (8).
9 Character, talented and comely (10).
10 Point in associate's baggage (4).
11 He helps judge in classes, sort of (8).
12 Kind of tease, Marshal (6).
13 Ruth, as a child (4).
15 Damn puzzle! (8).
18 Note weight of part of the arch (8).
19 Art movement Moscow twice approved (4).
21 Refer to personal column item (6).
23 Can tales become literary gleanings? (8).
25 One brother backs a bird (4).
26 First characteristic of being fresh as a girl (10).
27 Yield, when about to finish as champion (8).
28 Ashes of a kind worn as disguise (6).

DOWN

1 [illegible]mits an address to Tur-[illegible] Governors (5).
2 Sub[illegible] kish[illegible]
3 Security devices — a gun carried by poor refs? (9).
4 Like Hamlet and his problem (6).
5 Old Dutch propagandist (6,9).
6 Doing a pinch you and I — attractive all round (8).
7 About morning took nourishment, it's well known (5).
8 Anxious? That's involved! (9).
14 Can be led, many admitted — can be improved (9).
16 Benevolent chap with rum mate (9).
17 Girl student drinks grape-juice and gets dressed (8).
20 Mind about returning to the profession? (6).
22 More about one girl (5).
24 A symbol we need to know (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,741



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

Auctions

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Jewels and objects of vertu, 11; Oriental and general ceramics and works of art, 11. Christie's, King Street: English pictures, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: Printed books, 10.30; Art Nouveau and Art Deco, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Furniture, 11; musical instruments, 10.30.

Viewing

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Jewels and objects of vertu, 9 to 10. Christie's, South Kensington: Old and modern silver, 9.15 to 4.30; English and Continental prints, 9.15 to 4.30. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Silver, 9 to 10.30; furniture, carpets, objects; watercolours and drawings; clocks and watches, all 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Glass, English porcelain and prints, 9.30 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Belgravia: Furniture, 9.30 to 4.30.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Third division, Doncaster v Wimbledon, 7.30.

Athletics: AAA indoor championship, at Cosford, 6.

Snooker: Masters tournament, at Wembley, 2 and 7.30.

Rugby League: second division, Salford v Carlisle, 7.30.

Squash rackets: British under-23 championships, at Wembley, 5.45.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill and Dangerous Household Products (Child Safety) Packaging Bill, second readings.

Travel

Pre-recorded travel information on Traveline—rail: 01-246 8030; road: 01-246 8031; Sea: 01-246 8032; Air: 01-246 8033.

Rail

No very early trains; delays and cancellations likely, especially in the morning.

Because of guards' dispute, very limited services on Fenchurch Street—Southend—Shoeburyness line. Liverpool Street—Southend trains unaffected. For latest details, call station inquiries or Traveline (see above).

Roads

London and South-east: M1: Southbound carriageway closed overnight between junctions 7 and 5. A12: Roadworks at Brook Street roundabout, Brentwood, Essex. M2: Lane closures between junctions 3 (A229, Maidstone/Chatham exit) and Medway Bridge.

Midlands and E Anglia: A49/A5: Various roadworks in Shrewsbury. A625: Road closed at Mam Tor, Derbyshire; diversion. A14: Southbound lane closure on Huntingdon by-pass.

North: A1(M): Southbound lane closure at Scotch Corner, N Yorks. A6072: Roadworks on Heighington by-pass, Co Durham. A535: Alderley Road, Chelford closed between railway bridge and Curbishley Brook; diversion.

Wales and West: A30: Temporary lights at Okehampton, Devon. A487: Temporary signals near Bryncir between Caernarfon and Porthmadog. A39: Temporary signals at Stratton between Bideford and Fraddon, Cornwall.

Scotland: A1: Only one lane each way on Milton Road East, Edinburgh. A96: Roadworks in Forres, Morayshire. A739: Clyde Tunnel expressway closed southbound at Shield Hall Road flyover, diversions.

Information supplied by the AA.

Sea

Because of Sealink dispute, no Newhaven/Dieppe ferries operating. For special coaches to ports during rail disruption, call 01-828 4142 or 01-834 2345, or Sealink offices at ports.

Disruption to Guernsey services: ferries calling at Guernsey on return sailings from Jersey, but not outward sailings from Weymouth or Portsmouth. Call 0705-811 315, 0703-29753 or 0481-24742.

Food prices

Milder weather has meant a geenral improvement in supplies of homegrown vegetables. Prices are beginning to drop from the exceptionally high levels earlier in the month, but are likely to remain higher than normal for some weeks yet.

Citrus fruit, pears, celery and lettuce are good value, but tomatoes are more expensive and of variable quality.

Beef and lamb prices remain very high, but pork and bacon are comparatively cheap.

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Top box office films

The top 10 films in London:
1 Arthur
2 Fort Apache—The Bronx
3 Gallipoli
4 Body Heat
5 Rich and Famous
6 The French Lieutenant's Woman
7 An American Werewolf in London
8 Lady Chatterley's Lover
9 Monty Python's Life of Brian/Airplane!
10 Christiane F

The top five in the provinces:
1 Hot Bubblegum
2 Arthur
3 Midnight Express/McVicar
4 Stripes
5 Lady Chatterley's Lover

Compiled by Screen International

The papers

In calling for a rapid solution to the rail dispute, the Daily Mirror recognizes the men have a "strong case", but asks "who will believe that when Aslef seems afraid of putting it to the test of a binding arbitration or inquiry?"

The Daily Mail contrasts the endless stonewalling of Aslef's Ray Buckton with the thoughtful recent pronouncement of NUR's Sidney Weighell in favour of flexible rostering: "If the railways are to have a future it will be because the views of Mr Weighell prevail", it says.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung says the rigth lever to get better conditions for Poles is refusal of credits to Russia: "Disarmament negotiations are not a suitable form of reprisal".

Anniversaries today

Births: Emanuel Swedenborg, Stockholm, 1688; Daniel Bernoulli, mathematician, Groningen, Netherlands, 1700; Thomas Paine, Thetford, Norfolk, 1737; Frederick Delius, Bradford, 1862. Deaths: George II, London, 1820; Edward Lear, San Remo, 1888. The Victoria Cross was instituted 1856.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.77	1.69
Austria Sch	32.00	30.00
Belgium Fr	85.25	81.25
Canada $	2.32	2.23
Denmark Kr	14.75	14.05
Finland Mkk	8.73	8.28
France Fr	11.49	10.89
Germany DM	4.53	4.28
Greece Dr	128.00	119.00
Hongkong $	11.30	10.70
Ireland Pt	1.28	1.23
Italy Lir	2420.00	2320.00
Japan Yn	456.00	430.00
Netherlands Gld	4.97	4.71
Norway Kr	11.50	10.90
Portugal Esc	132.50	124.50
South Africa Rd	2.04	1.89
Spain Pta	193.00	184.00
Sweden Kr	11.04	10.46
Switzerland Fr	3.63	3.41
USA $	1.92	1.85
Yugoslavia Dnr	107.00	100.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The FT Index closed up 4.9 at 573.8.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 21.59 at 364.25.

Weather

Mild W airstream will cover most parts although trough of low pressure will reach some N areas later.

6 am to midnight

London, E Anglia, Midlands, E England: Mostly dry with bright periods, perhaps a little drizzle in places; wind SW to W, fresh; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

Channel Islands, SW, SE, Central S, SW England, Wales: Rather cloudy, occasional light rain or drizzle, mostly on coasts and hills; wind SW to W, fresh or strong; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Occasional rain or drizzle, becoming more persistent later; wind SW to W, fresh to strong; locally gale; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

Central N, NE England: Mostly dry with some bright intervals but occasional rain or drizzle likely later; wind SW to W, fresh or strong; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

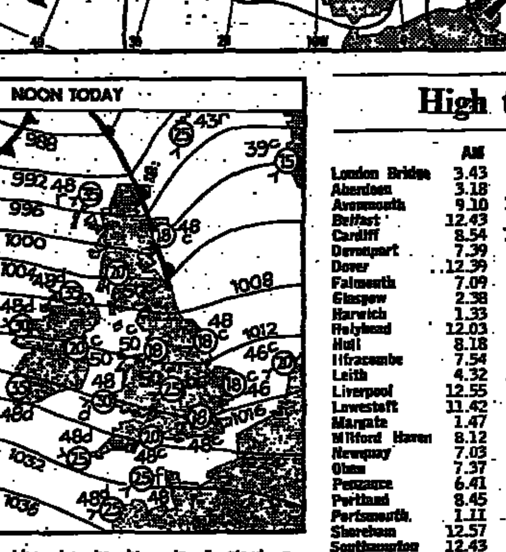
Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Outbreaks of rain, becoming clearer and showery later; wind W, later NW, strong to gale; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F); colder later.

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mild with occasional rain or drizzle in S at first but becoming colder and showery in SE. Sunny intervals and showers in N becoming cloudier with rain later.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind W, fresh to strong; sea moderate to rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind W, strong to gale; sea rough.

Sun rises: 7.44 am Sun sets: 4.44 pm
Moon rises: 9.56 am Moon sets: 9.40 pm
First quarter: February 1

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing side)



b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

Lighting up time

London 5.14 pm to 7.13 am
Bristol 5.24 pm to 7.22 am
Edinburgh 5.09 pm to 7.42 am
Manchester 5.15 pm to 7.28 am
Penzance 5.40 pm to 7.29 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	7	45	Guernsey	c	8	46
Birmingham	c	7	45	Inverness	c	7	45
Blackpool	f	8	46	Jersey	c	7	45
Bristol	c	8	46	London	c	7	45
Cardiff	c	8	46	Manchester	c	9	48
Edinburgh	c	8	46	Newcastle	c	9	48
Glasgow	c	8	46	Ronaldsway	f	9	48

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Torquay 12C (54F). Lowest day max: Anvil Green 5C (41F). Highest rainfall: Lerwick .57in. Highest sunshine: Colwyn Bay 4.9hr.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 1286: 18.10-18.14; WNW; 20WSW; SSW. Cosmos 236R: (Jan 30) 5.29-5.31; ENE*; 35ENE; E and 7.2-7.7; WNW; 45S; SE. Cosmos 1220: 18.42-18.46; SSW; 40SE; ESE* and 20.24-20.25; WSW; 20W; W*. Intercosmos 14R: 19.24-19.25; N; 10NNE; NNE*. Seasat: 17.49-17.54; N; 15NNW; NW. Salyut 6: 18.38-18.39; SW; 10SW; SSW.

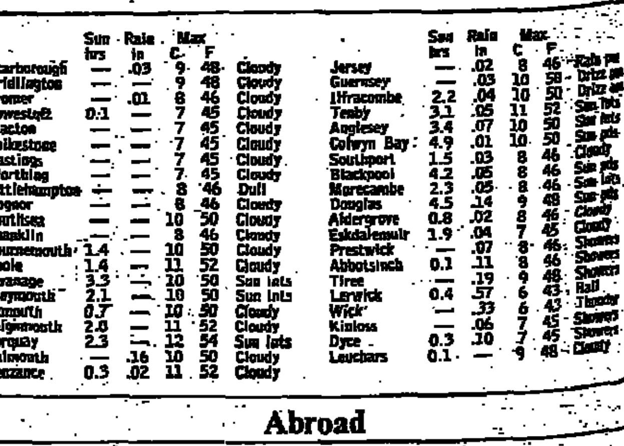
Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.43	7.1	4.09	7.7
Aberdeen	3.18	4.1	3.14	4.3
Avonmouth	9.10	12.9	9.27	12.8
Belfast	12.43	3.2	12.57	3.5
Cardiff	8.54	12.0	9.10	11.9
Devonport	7.39	5.4	8.00	5.2
Dover	12.39	6.6	12.52	6.4
Falmouth	7.09	5.2	7.30	5.0
Glasgow	2.38	4.5	2.55	5.0
Harwich	1.33	3.8	2.00	3.9
Holyhead	12.03	5.5	12.17	5.6
Hull	8.18	7.2	8.25	7.5
Ilfracombe	7.54	9.0	8.17	8.8
Leith	4.32	5.3	4.44	5.4
Liverpool	12.55	9.0	1.13	9.3
Lowestoft	11.42	2.3	11.36	2.4
Margate	1.47	4.7	2.13	4.6
Milford Haven	8.12	6.9	8.29	6.7
Newquay	7.03	6.9	7.20	6.7
Oban	7.37	4.0	7.47	3.8
Penzance	6.41	5.5	7.03	5.3
Portland	8.45	2.1	9.18	1.8
Portsmouth	1.11	4.4	1.20	4.3
Shoreham	12.57	6.0	1.08	6.0
Southampton	12.43	4.5	12.47	4.4
Swansea	8.16	9.2	8.39	9.0
Tees	5.37	5.1	5.40	5.5
Walton-on-the-Naze	1.28	4.1	1.52	4.1

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

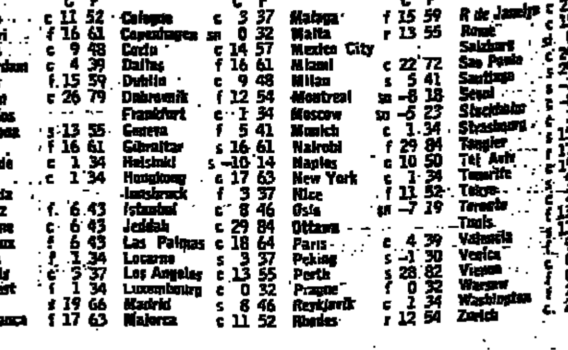
Around Britain



	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	—	.03	9	48	Cloudy
Bridlington	—	—	9	48	Cloudy
Cromer	—	.01	8	46	Cloudy
Lowestoft	0.1	—	7	45	Cloudy
Clacton	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Folkestone	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hastings	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Worthing	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Littlehampton	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bognor R	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southsea	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Shanklin	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bournemouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Poole	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swanage	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Weymouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Exmouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Teignmouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Torquay	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Falmouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Penzance	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Jersey	—	.02	8	46	Rain pm
Guernsey	—	.03	10	50	Drizzle
Ilfracombe	2.2	.04	10	50	Sun ints
Tenby	3.1	.05	11	52	Sun ints
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

		C	F
Ajaccio	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Akrotiri	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algiers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Athens	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bahrain	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barbados	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Belgrade	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boulogne	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bordeaux	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boston	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Budapest	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cairo	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Casablanca	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]